

FLN Networker No. 343: December 14, 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: *The Washington Post* has a [video](#), “**California Needs to Burn**. Native Women Are Leading the Way,” filmed at the **Klamath Women-in-Fire TREX** this fall. You can see photos of a lot more good burning in the state on the [TREX Facebook page](#).

California: The U.S. Forest Service recently [announced](#) that it has signed 11 new agreements to advance **tribal co-stewardship of national forests**. Among these is a supplement to a Master Stewardship Agreement with the **Karuk Tribe** and other partners for the **Western Klamath Restoration Partnership Planning Area**. “This year’s agreement will address fuels reduction and forest health through collaboration and project monitoring, including strategic wildfire control features, **integrated landscape-scale fuels reduction**, and **restorative prescribed fire treatments** in the tribal community of Orleans.”

Minnesota: An issue of the U.S. Forest Service newsletter *The Cross-Pollinator*—“[Learning from the Ojibwe: Combining Culture and Dendrochronology Tools](#)”—highlights a **research partnership** on Windigoominis (Star Island). The partnership includes the **Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe**, **Leech Lake Tribal College**, **University of Minnesota** and the **Chippewa National Forest**.

Oregon: **Ember Alliance** fire management officer **Jennifer Mueller** (jennifer@emberalliance.org) speaks of the power of a special place in her [post](#) “**Cultural Burning and Learning**,” about using fire at **Sycan Marsh**.

Funding: JFSP

JFSP: The **Joint Fire Science Program research funding opportunities** for fiscal year 2023 are open through **December 20**. Research areas this year include topics around effectiveness and longevity of fuel treatments, pre-fire actions to reduce post-fire hazards, and social and political factors that affect costs. See the [Southern Fire Exchange email](#) for a bit more detail; go to the [funding announcements](#) for complete information.

Input Requested: Wildfire Commission

Wildfire Commission: The federal **Wildland Fire Mitigation and Management Commission** has held its first couple of meetings, and several workgroups have begun discussing several topics. Other workgroups will take up the remainder of the topics over the next few months. You can currently **submit recommendations** [via a web form](#) to the groups working on **landscapes** or **communities** (both close today) or **post-fire issues** (closes January 6). (All topics, and when recommendations will be accepted for each, are also on that page.)

Resources: Zoom Accessibility / FAC Roles / Social Science

Zoom Accessibility: Learn how to enable automatic **closed captions**, **spotlight speakers**, and a few other features in the [brief video](#) “Zoom Accessible Features Overview.”

FAC Roles: Through interviews with a variety of community members, the [video](#) “**Many Roles with a Common Goal**” from **Fire Adapted New Mexico Learning Network** helps practitioners and residents see their place in the preparedness picture.

Social Science: Last week’s **FAC Net** [blog post](#), “The Value of a Listening Ear and an Inquiring Mind: The Career of **Dr. Sarah McCaffrey**,” collects some **highlights from the wide-ranging work** of the newly retired researcher, each flagged with “what we loved.”

Articles & Reports: Smoke / Drought / Risk / Indigenous Fire Management

Smoke: The authors of the [article](#) “Comparing Smoke **Emissions and Impacts** Under Alternative Forest Management Regimes” explored **five management options** through modeling, using the Lake Tahoe Basin as a case study.

Drought: The [article](#) “Tree Mortality Response to **Drought-Density Interactions** Suggests Opportunities to **Enhance Drought Resistance**” is based on measurements of more than 28,000 ponderosa pine trees over nearly two decades.

Risk: The [article](#) “The U.S. Forest Service Life First Safety Initiative: Exploring **Unnecessary Exposure to Risk**” is based on a survey of more than 2,600 employees. “Survey respondents described **four main situations** in which wildland firefighters commonly accepted unnecessary exposure to risk, related to **driving, mop up, aviation and communication.**”

Indigenous Fire Management: The authors of the [paper](#) “Indigenous Fire Management and Cross-Scale **Fire-Climate Relationships** in the Southwest United States from 1500 to 1900 CE” conclude that “Restoring or emulating Indigenous fire practices **could buffer climate impacts at local scales** but would need to be repeatedly implemented at broad scales for broader regional benefits.” An [article](#) in *Axios* captures highlights of the paper.

In the News: Traditional Ecological Knowledge / DoD-NWCG

Traditional Ecological Knowledge: For the first time, the **federal government** has [issued guidance](#) to agencies regarding **recognizing and including Indigenous knowledge** in research, policy and decision making.

DoD-NWCG: This month the **Department of Defense**, which manages 27 million acres of training and testing lands, became a **primary member** of the **National Wildfire Coordinating Group** ([NWCG](#)).

Jobs

Fire & Fuels: The **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service** has posted two **forestry technician** (prescribed fire/fuel technician) positions, as Air Force fire support, in Florida and Louisiana. Details are on [usajobs.gov](#) ([control number 692317400](#)); applications are due by **December 14**.

Fuels Captain: The **Tribal EcoRestoration Alliance** ([TERA](#)) is seeking a **fuels captain**, and is particularly encouraging Indigenous, Black and other folks of color; immigrants; LGBTQIA+, transgender and gender non-conforming folks; and people with disabilities to apply. See the [job description](#) for details; [apply](#) as soon as possible—applications are currently being processed.

TERA is also hiring **key support staff**: a [project manager](#), who will work with the fuels captain and the director to support TERA’s hand crew, and an [administrative manager](#) for the organization.

Rx Module: The Ember Alliance is filling **five positions** for a **prescribed fire module** to be based on the Uwharrie NF (**North Carolina**). The permanent positions will be nearly year-long, with possibility of extension dependent on funding; seasonal positions will be five to six months. All positions include **benefits and housing**. See the position descriptions for details—[crew lead](#) (permanent); [assistant](#) (permanent); [crewmember](#) (permanent); [crewmember](#) (seasonal). Apply by **December 27** for full consideration.

Fire & Fuels: The Highlands and Pinewood fire districts (Arizona) are establishing an eligibility list for **seasonal positions** on the **Bear Jaw Interagency Fire & Fuels Crew**. See the attached flyer for details and an application link; applications are due by **December 29**.

Fire Program: The Nature Conservancy in California is staffing up to increase its use of good fire across the state. Details are on the TNC careers page for **fire manager** (current RxB2, [job ID 52567](#)) and **prescribed fire specialist** (RxB2 within one year of hire, [job ID 52568](#)) positions; current employee should apply through PeopleSoft ([manager](#); [specialist](#)). Applications are due by **January 2**.

Module Lead: The Nature Conservancy North America Fire Team and Audubon Canyon Ranch Fire Forward are hiring a **prescribed fire module leader**, to be based at the Petaluma [Fire Forward](#) office, who will lead crews on burns in California and across the country. For details, see the TNC careers page ([job ID 52669](#)); applications are due by **January 4**. Current TNC employees should apply through [PeopleSoft](#).

FAC Specialist: The **City of Austin** (Texas) is hiring an **environmental compliance specialist senior** to provide leadership, coordination and implementation of programs covering CWPPs, Firewise communities, fire prevention, fuels mitigation and defensible space. For details, see the city's jobs page ([position number 114899](#)); applications are due by **January 5**.

Program Director: The Nature Conservancy is seeking a **Western Dry Forests and Fire Initiative program director** to support the **regional initiative**. Details are on the TNC careers page ([job ID 52602](#)); applications are due by **January 8**. Current employees should apply through [PeopleSoft](#).

Forestry & Stewardship: The Nature Conservancy in Montana is hiring a **Western Montana forestry and stewardship assistant** to be part of a team doing a wide variety of work, including forest inventory, assisting with prescribed fire, working with partners and more. Details are on the TNC careers page ([job ID 52633](#)); applications are due by **January 13**. Current employees should apply through [PeopleSoft](#).

Fire Faculty: Cal Poly San Luis Obispo is filling an **assistant/associate professor of wildland fire management** in its Natural Resources Management and Environmental Sciences Department. For details, see the university's careers page ([job no. 520968](#)); application review will begin **January 13**.

Senior Program Manager: The **City of Boulder** (Colorado) is hiring a **wildland fire senior program manager** for its **Open Space and Mountain Parks** department. Details are on the city's jobs page ([JR335](#)).

GIS: The **New Mexico Forest and Watershed Restoration Institute** is seeking a **GIS coordinator** with a focus on developing forestry and wildfire mapping applications to support NMFWR and partners on a national **Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act project** by compiling and managing national geospatial data for federally funded fuels treatment projects and wildfires occurring across jurisdictions. Details are on the New Mexico Highlands University [jobs site](#).

Fire Management: The **Central Pine Barrens Commission** (New York) is hiring a **fire management specialist** ([permanent position](#)), and staffing a **seasonal crew** ([engine boss](#), [squad boss](#) and [crew members](#)).

Fire Management Specialist: The Nature Conservancy is seeking a **fire management specialist** (RxB2 within one year of hire) to support the **Kentucky and Tennessee** fire and stewardship programs. Details are on the TNC careers page ([job ID 52599](#)); current employees should apply through [PeopleSoft](#).

On-Call Crew: The Nature Conservancy is seeking to staff the **Delmarva As-Needed Burn Crew** for the February through May burn season. Details are on the TNC careers page for **crew manager** (FFT1; [job ID 52566](#)) and **crew member** ([job ID 52565](#)) positions; current employees should apply through PeopleSoft.

Ecology Intern: The **National Park Service** is seeking an **ecology assistant** for a one-year internship (with stipend and housing). The focus will be **synthesizing fire monitoring data** collected over 30 years in Saguaro NP and Chiricahua NM to help inform fire management planning. See the [position announcement](#) for details.

Webinars

December 15

Fueling Collaboration: Fire and Water

8:00 Pacific / 9:00 Mountain / 10:00 Central / 11:00 Eastern (1.5 hr)

The second panel discussion of season 3 of the “Fueling Collaboration” series from eastern JFSP Fire Science Exchanges and USFS Northern and Southern Research Stations will be moderated by Stephanie Laseter.

Register: <https://www.fuelingcollab.com/episode-3-2>

December 15
new listing

How States Can Better Budget for Wildfires

11:00 Pacific / noon Mountain / 1:00 Central / 2:00 Eastern

The Pew Charitable Trusts will host leaders from federal and state agencies to deliver perspectives on the growing burden of wildfires on state budgets.

Register: <https://web.cvent.com/event/8424a62f-e5f5-4f9a-b685-83468a7483a7/summary>

January 17
new listing

Diversity Explodes With Another Boring Burn

11:00 Pacific / noon Mountain / 1:00 Central / 2:00 Eastern

Virginia McDaniel will be the presenter in this webinar from the Oak Woodlands & Forests Fire Consortium.

Register: <https://oakfirescience.com/events/webinar-diversity-explodes-with-another-boring-burn/>

January 19
new listing

Fueling Collaboration: Fire and Wildlife

8:00 Pacific / 9:00 Mountain / 10:00 Central / 11:00 Eastern (1.5 hr)

The third panel discussion of season 3 of the “Fueling Collaboration” series from eastern JFSP Fire Science Exchanges and USFS Northern and Southern Research Stations will be moderated by Lauren Pile Knapp.

Register: <https://www.fuelingcollab.com/episode-3-3>

February 7
new listing

How Is Fire Ecology Different Than Classical Ecology?

11:00 Pacific / noon Mountain / 1:00 Central / 2:00 Eastern

Brice Hanberry will be the presenter in this webinar from the Oak Woodlands & Forests Fire Consortium.

Register: <https://oakfirescience.com/events/webinar-how-is-fire-ecology-different-than-classical-ecology/>

February 16
new listing

Fueling Collaboration: Prescribed Burning in the Eastern WUI

8:00 Pacific / 9:00 Mountain / 10:00 Central / 11:00 Eastern (1.5 hr)

The third panel discussion of season 3 of the “Fueling Collaboration” series from eastern JFSP Fire Science Exchanges and USFS Northern and Southern Research Stations will be moderated by David Godwin.

Register: <https://www.fuelingcollab.com/episode-3-4>

Network Workshops & Field Tours

January 24

Potomac Headwaters Fire Learning Network Workshop / Cumberland, MD

This workshop will focus on ecozone mapping and ecological departure analyses, to help set the focus of burn programs moving forward. Successes of the past three years and discuss new developments, including fire monitoring using remote imagery and advances in drone ignition technology, are also on the agenda.

Prescribed Fire Training Exchanges (TREX) & Cooperative Burning

Nov. 11-Jan. 15

North Bay Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Bay Area, CA

This event is in progress.

February 4-10 (est.)
new listing

CFMC Cultural Burn Training Exchange / Weitchpec, CA

The target date for the spring Cultural Fire Management Council event has been set and applications are being accepted through **January 11**. Participants must be able to mobilize to Weitchpec with 72 hours’ notice.

Details: see the [announcement](#) and [application](#) form

Feb. 20-March 3

Women-in-Fire Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Southeastern NC

The deadline for this TREX has passed.

Feb. 27-Mar. 10

Southern Missouri Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Springfield, MO

The deadline for this TREX has passed.

March 20-31
new listing

Women in Fire TREX South Africa (WTREXSA) / Cape Town, SA

The first TREX in Africa, WTREXSA will host about 20 participants of all genders, ethnic, and racial and geographic backgrounds, from novice burners to seasoned fire professionals, to explore the growing role of women in firefighting and fire management. The application deadline is **December 19**.

Details & link to application: <https://wtrexsa.co.za/>

April 24-28
new listing

Loess Hills Cooperative Burn Week / Pisgah, IA

Save the date for the 2023 CBW, which will be based out of the Loess Hills State Forest. Details will be shared after the first of the year, with registration in March.

Trainings, Conferences, Workshops, Etc.

January 9-24
new listing

S-131: Firefighter Type I / online

The Natural Areas Training Academy is offering this training. Applications are being accepted through January 4, or when capacity is reached.

Information: <https://programs.ifas.ufl.edu/nata/fire-trainings/s-131-firefighter-type-i/>

January 26-27

Pennsylvania Prescribed Fire Council / State College, PA and online

A group rate on rooms is being held until December 27.

Agenda & registration: <https://paprescribedfire.org/annual-meeting/>

- March 28-30**
new listing **IAFC Wildland-Urban Interface Conference / Reno, NV**
Information: <https://www.eventscribe.net/2023/WUI/>
- April 2-7**
new listing **Hands-On Fire Science Methods Workshop / Hatfield, MO**
The Tallgrass Prairie and Oak Savanna Fire Science Consortium is hosting this workshop for graduate students and early-career professionals in research or management positions on TNC's Dunn Ranch Prairie Preserve.
Information: <http://www.tposfirescience.org/fire-sci-methods-workshop/>
- April 12-13** **Colorado Wildland Fire Conference / Fort Collins, CO**
The conference focus is "Accelerating Adaptation and Managing Expectations." There is also a wildfire mitigation pre-conference workshop April 10-11 and a field tour of the Poudre watershed April 14. Early bird [registration](#) is open through January 15.
Information: <https://www.wildfire-colorado.com/>
- April 25-28** **Prescribed Fire for Wildlife / Haines City, FL**
[Save the date](#) for this course offered by the Florida Chapter of The Wildlife Society and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.
Information: <https://fltws.org/>
- May 2-4** **Cross-Boundary Landscape Restoration Workshop / Fort Collins, CO**
Early bird registration for this workshop on "Adapting to a Climate-Altered West" runs through March 1.
Information: <https://sweri.org/cross-boundary-landscape-restoration-workshop/>
- May 16-18**
new listing **Fire in Eastern Oak Forests Conference / Tyler, TX**
Information: <https://oakfirescience.com/events/7th-fire-in-eastern-oak-forests-conference/>
- December 4-8** **10th International Fire Ecology and Management Congress / Monterey, CA**
Save the date for this event hosted by the Association for Fire Ecology.
Information: <https://fireecology.org/calendar-entries/firecongress23>

Send News, Links & Comments

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

Emily Hohman – emily.hohman@tnc.org – Emily is in Haines City, FL December 12-16; out December 26-January 6

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

Jeremy Bailey – jeremy_bailey@tnc.org – Jeremy is in Haines City, FL December 12-16.

Laurel Kays – laurel.kays@tnc.org – Laurel is out December 26-January 2.

Lemaine Peo – lemaine.peo@tnc.org – Lemaine is out January 4-5.

Marek Smith – marek_smith@tnc.org – Marek is in Haines City, FL December 12-16; out December 22-January 2.

Mary Huffman – mhuffman@tnc.org – Mary is in the office.

Miranda Flora – miranda.flora@tnc.org – Miranda is in a workshop December 19-20.

Liz Rank (editor) – lrnk@tnc.org – Liz is out December 22-26, December 29-January 2.

Note: December 26 and January 2 are Conservancy holidays, and the Conservancy is closed December 30.

Full Links

News from the Field—CA—KWTREX: https://www.washingtonpost.com/video/climate-environment/california-needs-to-burn-native-women-are-leading-the-way/2022/11/21/50bb7596-9dac-460b-8e6f-20e32affc0ed_video.html

News from the Field—CA--Agreements: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/news/releases/new-agreements-advance-tribal-co-stewardship>

News from the Field—MN: https://www.fs.usda.gov/research/docs/cross-pollinator/Cross-Pollinator_issue-5-feb2022.pdf

News from the Field—OR: <https://emberalliance.org/2022/11/30/cultural-burning-and-learning/>

Funding—JFSP—Email summary: <https://mailchi.mp/southernfireexchange/firescapingwebinar-1229840?e=b1d5f858e9>

Full announcements: https://www.firescience.gov/JFSP_funding_announcements.cfm

Resources—Zoom accessibility: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gnvSScpXYZE>

Resources—FAC roles: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZyZoLED_JeU

Resources—Social science: <https://fireadaptednetwork.org/the-career-of-dr-sarah-mccaffrey/>

Articles & Reports—Smoke: https://www.fs.usda.gov/psw/publications/jwlong/psw_2022_long005.pdf

Articles & Reports—Drought: https://www.fs.usda.gov/pnw/pubs/journals/pnw_2022_bradford001.pdf

Articles & Reports—Risk: https://www.fs.usda.gov/rm/pubs_journals/2022/rmrs_2022_flores_d002.pdf

Articles & Reports—Indigenous fire management—Paper: <https://www.science.org/doi/epdf/10.1126/sciadv.abq3221>

Highlights: <https://www.axios.com/2022/12/07/wildfires-indigenous-cultural-burning>

In the News—Traditional ecological knowledge: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/ostp/news-updates/2022/12/01/white-house-releases-first-of-a-kind-indigenous-knowledge-guidance-for-federal-agencies/>

In the News—DoD-NWCG: <https://www.defense.gov/News/Releases/Release/Article/3236529/national-wildfire-coordinating-group-welcomes-dod/>

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:

<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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**Bear Jaw Interagency Fire & Fuels Crew
Seasonal Employment Opportunity
Fire & Fuels Technician W-1
Closing Date: December 29, 2022
Salary Range: \$15.80 – 17.92 per hour**

Applications link: <https://forms.gle/Aga64rVeuBnQVrU66>

The Bear Jaw Fire and Fuels Crew is accepting applications to establish an eligibility list for the position of Seasonal Fire & Fuels Technician. A Fire & Fuels Technician will perform duties related to hazardous fuels reduction, fire prevention, public education, prescribed/pile burns, fire suppression, and other activities that support the protection of life and property. This position is scheduled to work 40 hour work weeks, and normally runs seasonally from April through October. Employment may require individuals to be away from home or out of the state for extended periods of time. Previous history as a team player, laborer, mechanic, machinist, framer, welder, and other skillful trades are utilized outside the crews normal fire and fuels tasks. Ability for applicants to push themselves mentally and physically is a requirement. Applicants are encouraged to keep a physical fitness routine preparing themselves for the demands of the job prior to employment.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- U.S. Citizen, 18 years of age or older, High School Diploma or equivalent
- Valid Driver's License and Arizona Driver's License upon date of hire
- Satisfactory 39 month Driving Record

APPLICATION PROCESS: Highlands Fire Department is managing this hiring process for Highlands and Pinewood Fire Districts. Applications must be completed online and can be edited after initial submission. Applications are available at the link below. Applications must be received by **THURSDAY December 29, 2022 at 4:00 PM** and must be complete and accompanied by all documents necessary to support the minimum qualifications listed above. For questions regarding the application process or to schedule a time to fill out the online application at an HFD station if you do not have internet access, contact Shelby Erickson at (928) 525-1717 or email: bearjaw@highlandfire.org.

Applications link: <https://forms.gle/Aga64rVeuBnQVrU66>

HIRING PROCESS: Applicants may be required to attend organizational meetings. Attendance for these organizational meetings will be mandatory in order to keep your name on the hiring list. Hiring process may include, but is not limited to the following: application review and evaluation, performance and achievement evaluation, physical ability and/or work capacity tests, oral board interviews, an interview with the Fire Chiefs, aptitude tests, written tests, hands on testing, or any combination of these or other requirements of the job. Applicants may be notified of examination and/or interview dates by phone or e-mail.

HIRING LIST: The list generated from this announcement will be utilized to fill seasonal vacancies on the crew for the 2020 fire season, approximately April 20, 2020 through October 15, 2020.

OFFERS OF EMPLOYMENT: Employment offers may be through Highlands or Pinewood Fire Districts. All offers of employment are conditional, subject to satisfactory results of Arduous Work Capacity Test and pre-employment screening. Screening may consist of any or all of the following: criminal background checks, reference checks, driving record check, drug and alcohol testing, pre-employment physical examination, and production of documents sufficient to demonstrate identity and authorization to work in the United States as required by the Immigration Reform and Control Act.

Highlands and Pinewood Fire Districts are Equal Opportunity Employers.