

FLN Networker No. 290: November 20, 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.

News from the Field

Arizona: The recent **Workshop on Ecological Burning** (WEB) held at TNC's Hart Prairie Preserve is covered in the KNAU [radio story](#) "Workshop Trains Future 'Burn Bosses,' as Forest Managers Struggle to **Increase Prescribed Fire**."

Arkansas: The **South Central FLN** hosted a meeting of **Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program** partners in Russellville last month, with more than **60 people from 12 agencies** and organizations taking part. These semi-annual meetings allow partners in the **Ozark Highlands collaborative** to discuss current work and accomplishments, identify new partners, and seek opportunities for future work and next steps. For more, contact **McRee Anderson** (wanderson@tnc.org).

California: This fall brought another **Klamath River TRES**—and another [great article](#) about it by **Malcolm Terence**. In "Spreading the Gospel of Good Fire" he focuses on the group of **nature journalers** who accompanied crews for three days, sharing many of their **splendid sketches**. This addition to the TRES was the brainchild of BLM fire education specialist **Miriam Morrill**, who said as it wrapped up, "It was like a **window into a historical movement** that we were privileged to witness and journal about. Saying it went well is not ... adequate."

California: The *Mother Jones* [article](#) "California's Wildfire Policy Totally Backfired. Native Communities Know How to Fix It" talks about how **indigenous burning** and efforts like **TRES** and the **Humboldt County Prescribed Burn Association** can help the state move toward a better relationship with fire. For more about the PBA, contact **Lenya Quinn-Davidson** (lquinndavidson@ucanr.edu).

Maryland / Central Appalachians: The *Cumberland Times-News* [article](#) "Officials: Setting Forests Ablaze Part of Healthy Management Plan" reports briefly on the fall **Central Appalachians FLN workshop** and, more importantly, on **burning** in the **Potomac Headwaters landscape**, which hosted the workshop. Workshop **presentation slides** are now posted on the landscape's [Conservation Gateway page](#).

Oregon: Regulations for new construction are starting to be put in place in southwestern Oregon. An overview is in the Jefferson Public Radio [story](#) "**Wildfire-Resistant Building Materials** Required For Some New Homes In Medford"; for more, contact **Chris Chambers** (chris.chambers@ashland.or.us).

TRES: The [nature.org post](#) "Fire Training Exchanges (TRES) Help Expand Safe, Effective Controlled Burns" has **highlights from four fall events**, including the **San Juan TRES** in southwestern Colorado and **Spanish-Language TRES** in New Mexico, the **nature journaling workshop** held in conjunction with the **Klamath River TRES**, and the **Cascadia TRES**, which once again burned near the community of Roslyn, Washington.

Resources: Talking Fire / Traditional Knowledge / Carbon Monoxide / Biochar

Talking Fire: Words matter. So the FAC Net [blog post](#) "**Avoid These Pitfalls** When Writing About Wildland Fire" by **Wendy Fulks** (wfulks@tnc.org) is a great crash course on **best practices** if you're new to writing about wildfire—and full of good reminders for those who've been doing so for a while.

Traditional Knowledge: The **Northern Rockies Fire Science Exchange** is launching *Traditional Knowledge and Fire*, a **bi-annual newsletter** focused on TK and fire and fuels management in the northern Rockies and the Pacific Northwest. Use their [subscription form](#) to sign up.

Carbon Monoxide: The **heater doesn't even have to be in the building** to cause a problem. Check out the Cow Creek Fire incident [report](#) from the Wildland Fire Lessons Learned Center, and be safe.

Biochar: The **Utah Biomass Resources Group** has created a [fact sheet](#) **building and using a kiln** made from simple, low-cost materials to make **small-batch biochar** in support of fuel reduction projects.

Articles & Reports: LiDAR / Ponderosa Regeneration / Public Opinion / Risk Perceptions & Mitigation Behaviors / Monitoring CFLRP / Carbon

LiDAR: The **Ecological Restoration Institute** has released the [fact sheet](#) “**Understanding LiDAR** for Forest Applications,” which gives a brief introduction to the technology’s use in **gathering spatially explicit data** on forest conditions.

Ponderosa Regeneration: The authors of the [article](#) “What Drives Ponderosa Pine Regeneration Following Wildfire in the Western United States?” conducted a **review synthesizing factors** driving post-fire ponderosa regeneration, finding that three emerged as strong drivers (proximity to **seed source**, higher **elevation**, lower **climatic stress**).

Public Opinion: The [final report](#) for the JFSP project “Defining Resilient Landscapes From Multiple Stakeholder Perspectives in a WUI Area” includes interesting insights into assessing **public support or opposition** to a high-visibility fuels treatment project. Public opinion was **assessed both by observing public meetings and through a census survey** in the area; interviews and public meetings suggested strong opposition to the project, while the survey—a “**more accurate** gauge of community sentiment”—suggested general support.

Risk Perceptions & Mitigation Behaviors: The [article](#) “Close But No Cigar: The **Influence of a Near-Miss Wildfire** on Resident Risk Perceptions and Mitigation Behaviors” is based on a survey of 195 residents of Durango, Colorado, which had a close brush with wildfire in 2018. The authors explored respondents’ beliefs about both the wildfire threat (perceived severity, perceived vulnerability) and their beliefs about the efficacy of mitigation actions, and their ability to accomplish them.

CFLRP: The **Ecological Restoration Institute** has just released the [white paper](#) “**Assessing Metrics of Landscape Restoration Success** in Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program Projects,” which reviews monitoring documentation of CFLRP projects to better understand their landscape-scale **monitoring definitions, techniques and current status** to examine the challenges and success of collaborative monitoring to understand the effects of forest restoration at landscape scale.

Carbon: In the [opinion piece](#) “Managing for Disturbances Stabilizes Forest Carbon,” Matthew Hurteau and colleagues argue for the “explicit **use of disturbance ecology** to factor in tree mortality risk” when managing to **maximize long-term, stable carbon storage**.

Video: Wildfire Economy

Wildfire Economy: The **Northwest Fire Science Consortium** [video](#) “Up and Down: The Wildfire Economy” briefly looks at the economic impacts of wildfire—**during and after**—and how the **trajectory differs** from that of other natural disasters, like hurricanes or earthquakes.

In the News: Politics & Wildfire

Politics & Wildfire: Reading the *Bloomberg* [opinion piece](#) “You **Can’t Fight California Fires With Political Hot Air**: Practical Measures Can Limit the Damage. Stoking Division Inflames It” is like getting a good scold—there’s something in it to briefly raise almost anyone’s hackles. But it also summarizes the situation (and some solutions) well.

Jobs: Forestry Coordinator / Global Director / Diversity Crew Lead / Science Technician / WUI Coordinator

Forestry Coordinator: **Blackfoot Challenge** is seeking a **forestry and prescribed fire coordinator** to coordinate its forest lands conservation program, based in Ovando, MT. Details are in a [news post](#) on their website; review of applications will begin **November 25**.

Global Director: **The Nature Conservancy** is hiring a **global indigenous peoples & local communities director** to serve its Global Program for Conservation in Partnership with Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Program. Details are on the Conservancy’s careers page ([job ID 48170](#)); applications are due by **December 1**. Current employees should apply through [PeopleSoft](#).

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 conservation programs in the **Okefenokee and Osceola landscape**. Details are on the Conservancy’s careers page ([job ID 48220](#)); applications are due by **December 5**. Current employees should apply through [PeopleSoft](#).

Science Technician: **The Nature Conservancy** is hiring a **Virginia Pinelands Dave Tice Science Technician**; this (paid) internship program is intended to introduce interested persons to the Conservancy’s work while contributing to ecological management and monitoring goals. Details are available on TNC’s careers page ([job ID 48235](#)); applications are due by **December 16**.

WUI Coordinator: The **Ready, Set, Go!** program, managed by the International Association of Fire Chiefs, is soliciting submissions from **contractors** who can facilitate **targeted wildland fire risk reduction** in communities. Details are in a WUI contractor opportunity [flyer](#); the application period closes **December 19**.

Webinar

November 19 recording available **Rivercane: A Culturally & Ecologically Significant Plant in the Appalachians** David Cozzo introduced the cultural and ecological importance of rivercane, and Adam Griffith spoke about restoration projects in western North Carolina in this Southern Blue Ridge FLN webinar. [View the recording](#).
(Information about any upcoming FLN webinars, and recordings of recent ones, can also be found on the [FLN webinars page](#) on the Conservation Gateway.)

Network Workshops & Field Tours

May 19-21 **Southern Blue Ridge FLN / Dillard, GA**
Save the date for this regional FLN workshop hosted by the Balsam-Nantahala landscape.

FLN Prescribed Fire Training Exchanges (TREX)

- March 30-April 10** **Women-in-Fire TREX (WTREX) / Southeastern VA**
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**
[Save the date](#), and watch for details and application materials in January.
- April 27-May 8** **Ashland TREX / Southwestern OR**
[Save the date](#), and watch for details and application materials in January.

Conferences, Workshops, Training, Etc.

- January 11-17, 2020** **Southern Area Engine Academy / Barberville, FL**
deadline
Nominations are due by December 6.
Information: <https://mailchi.mp/6b1bbc5d3520/southern-area-engine-academy-january-11-17-2020-in-florida>
- February 4-5** **Burning Big! Large Burn Implementation in the Central Appalachians / Staunton, VA**
new listing
The **Heart of the Appalachians FLN** landscape is hosting this multidisciplinary workshop, with lively discussion, skill-building and sim table exercises. See attached flyer.
Register: <https://forms.gle/riGjvwk5DBBzEYEN6>
- February 25-26** **Mitigation Best Practices / Boise, ID**
February 27-28 **Community Mitigation Assistance Team (CMAT) / Boise, ID**
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. Register by January 24.
Information: <https://co-co.org/get-involved/events/>
- April 15-16** **Colorado Wildland Fire Conference / Grand Junction, CO**
deadline
Fire Adapted Colorado is presenting this conference focused on “Discover Your Role: Reducing Wildland Fire Risk.” Proposals are being accepted through December 15.
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 in the office.

Heather Montanye – hmontanye@tnc.org – Heather is in the office.

Jeremy Bailey – jeremy_bailey@tnc.org – Jeremy is in Andalusia November 10-25.

Marek Smith – marek_smith@tnc.org – Marek is in DC November 25.

Mary Huffman – mhuffman@tnc.org – Mary is at Sycan Marsh, OR November 19-22.

Wendy Fulks – wfulks@tnc.org – Wendy is in Tucson, AZ November 18-22.

Liz Rank (editor) – lrnk@tnc.org – Liz is out December 6.

Note: November 28 and 29 are Conservancy holidays.

Full Links

News from the Field—AZ: <https://www.knau.org/post/workshop-trains-future-burn-bosses-forest-managers-struggle-increase-prescribed-fire>

News from the Field—CA—Klamath TREX: <https://m.northcoastjournal.com/humboldt/spreading-the-gospel-of-good-fire/Content?oid=15544822>

News from the Field—CA—Indigenous & PBA: <https://www.motherjones.com/environment/2019/11/californias-wildfire-controlled-prescribed-burns-native-americans/>

News from the Field—MD/Central Apps—Article: https://www.times-news.com/news/local_news/officials-setting-forests-ablaze-part-of-healthy-management-plan/article_fadefef5-8a15-5439-961c-dd3779f6e3ff.html

Presentations: http://www.conservationgateway.org/ConservationByGeography/NorthAmerica/UnitedStates/md/Pages/Maryland_FireLearningNetwork.aspx

News from the Field—OR: <https://www.ijpr.org/post/wildfire-resistant-building-materials-required-some-new-homes-medford#stream/0>

News from the Field—TREX: <https://www.nature.org/en-us/what-we-do/our-priorities/protect-water-and-land/land-and-water-stories/fire-training-exchanges-expand-controlled-burns/>

Resources—Talking fire: <https://fireadaptednetwork.org/avoid-these-pitfalls-when-writing-about-wildland-fire/>

Resources—Traditional knowledge: <https://www.nrfirescience.org/subscribe-tk-and-fire-newsletter>

Resources—Carbon monoxide: <https://www.wildfirelessons.net/orphans/viewincident?DocumentKey=a3744703-0d70-4ff2-9994-3d037d36cbd3>

Resources—Biochar: <https://forestry.usu.edu/fact-sheets/hazardous-fuels-reduction-using-flame-cap-biochar-kiln>

Articles & Reports—LiDAR: <https://cdm17192.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p17192coll1/id/963/rec/2>

Articles & Reports—Ponderosa regeneration:

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0378112719309259?dgcid=author>

Articles & Reports—Public opinion: <https://mailchi.mp/blm/friday-flash-conflicts-over-wildland-urban-interface-fuel-treatments-why-they-happen?e=a519537891>

Articles & Reports—Risk perceptions & mitigation behaviors: <https://hazards.colorado.edu/quick-response-report/close-but-no-cigar>

Articles & Reports—CFLRP: <https://cdm17192.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p17192coll1/id/1015/rec/1>

Articles & Reports—Carbon: https://www.fs.fed.us/psw/publications/north/psw_2019_north004_hurteau.pdf

Video—Wildfire economy: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CPQU3I-kL4M>

In the News—Politics & wildfire: <https://www.bloomberg.com/opinion/articles/2019-11-13/california-fires-can-t-be-doused-with-political-hot-air>

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.

In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

To stop receiving the FLN Networker, please reply to this message and include your request in the body of the message.



BURNING BIG!

Large Burn Implementation in the Central Appalachians

DATE: FEBRUARY 4-5, 2020

Heart of the Appalachians Fire Learning Network is hosting a multi-disciplinary workshop focused on tackling the challenges of increasing prescribed burn size. Join us for a lively discussion, skill building and sim table exercises. There is no admission fee. Please register at <https://forms.gle/riGjvwk5DBBzEYEN6>



Workshop Topics:

Burn Unit Design

Aviation Best Practices

Firing Techniques

Smoke Management

Science & Adaptive Management

**LOCATION:
FRONTIER CULTURE
MUSEUM**

1290 Richmond Ave
Staunton, VA 24401

For More Information Call:
Nikole Simmons
(540) 839-3599

