

FLN Networker No. 334: June 8, 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 **Karuk Tribe** has posted the [video](#) “Good Fire: Current Barriers to the **Expansion of Cultural Burning and Prescribed Fire** in California and Recommended Solutions” to its climate change projects site. Bill Tripp, Don Hankins, Lenya Quinn-Davidson, Will Harling and others speak of recent **good legislation** in the state—and the need to **now implement it** on the ground, along with the cultural changes and training support that will require.

California: **Margo Robbins** and **Elizabeth Azzuz** spoke with Farmer Campus for the [blog post](#) “Fire is Family: A Conversation with the **Yurok Tribe’s Cultural Fire Management Council**.”

Iowa: In early April, **91 people from 36 agencies and organizations** took part in the **Loess Hills Cooperative Burn Week**. The [post-event summary](#) is well worth a read, with highlights of the scope of the burning (2,902 acres, across nine units on four days) and the training opportunities offered. In addition, this model of learning and burning together has **spread to another region in Iowa**, as the Little Sioux Watershed Conservation Partnership hosted their first cooperative burn week in early May with strong regional participation. For more, contact **Kody Wohlers** (kwohlers@inhf.org).

Nebraska: **Weather challenges** at the **Loup TREC** caused organizers and participants to “shift and practice **patience, flexibility and diplomacy**,” but were still able to burn a couple units, for a total of 500 acres. As with last year, they got some assistance on the line from a **local 7th grader**, who also gave a presentation on how the fire community can **better involve youth**. For more, contact **Ben Wheeler** (ben.wheeler@nebraska.gov).

FAC Net: The **Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network** has welcomed **three new core members**—COPE Northern Sonoma County (California), Mountain Valleys RC&D (North Carolina) and Pulaski County Emergency Management (Virginia). There are now 22 core members in the network ([see map](#)).

WTREX: Read about the recent **Women-in-Fire TREC**—including the WTREX **origin story**—in the [nature.org feature](#) “Trailblazers: Women in Fire.” Another reporter asked five of the participants and organizers—**Laurel Schablein, Lenya Quinn-Davidson, Alicia Rhodenizer, Kylie Paul and Nikole Simmons**—**what WTREX means to them**, for the [story](#) “Training Days” in *Blue Ridge Outdoors*.

New Staff: The Fire Networks welcomed **two new staff** in May. **Lemaine Peo** (lemaine.peo@tnc.org) is the new **director of finance and operations** for the North America Fire Team, and **Autumn Bjugstad** (autumn.bjugstad@tnc.org) has been hired as an **executive coordinator**, a new position on the team. And **coming soon**, a new member of the **FAC Net** team. (It might be you; see the Jobs section below.)

Funding: AIM

AIM: Coalitions and Collaboratives Inc. has put out the **call for proposals** for its next round of Action, Implementation and Mitigation Program funding to **support capacity-building activities**, including personnel, planning efforts and wildfire risk reduction work on non-federal lands. See the [announcement](#) for more; applications are being accepted through **July 1**.

Resources: New FAC Tool / BK Radios / Water Pumps / Biochar / Data Scale

New FAC Tool: The **Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network** has worked with researcher **Travis Paveglio** to create the **Fire Adapted Communities Pathways Tool**. The tool, based on the [FAC graphic](#) developed by FAC Net and the **community archetypes** work done by Paveglio and his colleagues, is intended to help practitioners answer the question, “**Where do I start?**” Learn more in the FAC Net [blog post](#) “Introducing The Fire Adapted Communities Pathways Tool.”

BK Radios: Some BK Technologies radios **manufactured in 2021 and 2022** may **fail to power up**. The **NWCG Equipment Technology Committee** has released an [advisory notice](#) with details about which radios are affected, and how to test them before use in the field.

Water Pumps: The **NWCG Equipment Technology Committee** has also release a [bulletin](#) recommending a **fuel/oil mix ratio change** for Mark-3 and WICK 375 high pressure portable pumps.

Biochar: The [latest issue](#) of the Rocky Mountain Research Station *Science You Can Use Bulletin* covers “Biochar Basics: An A-to-Z Guide to Biochar **Production, Use and Benefits.**”

Data Scale: **LANDFIRE** project lead **Jim Smith** [discusses](#) the issue of **application scale of spatial data** sets—commonly phrased as “How far **can I zoom in** on this data and have it make sense?” He elaborates on the answer (“It depends”), using LANDFIRE data as an example.

Articles & Reports: Wildfire Forecast / Adaptation Strategies

Wildfire Forecast: The [article](#) “**Winter and Spring Climate** Explains a Large Portion of Interannual Variability and Trend in **Western U.S. Summer Fire Burned Area**” was recently published by a team from the National Center for Atmospheric Research. It is summarized in the *ScienceDaily* [post](#) “Scientists Develop **Method for Seasonal Prediction** of Western Wildfires.” (They predict this year will be more severe than last average, but less than last year.)

Adaptation Strategies: The [article](#) “Adaptation Strategies and Approaches for **Managing Fire in a Changing Climate**” is based on “co-produced knowledge from a science–management partnership.” The authors lay out a “**menu**” of potential strategies (for **resistance, resilience or transition**) and some approaches that can be taken under each.

In the News: Rx Escapes / PBAs

Rx Escapes: “The **wildfire problem** is a **collective problem that we incrementally created** through fire suppression, development patterns and human-caused climate change. Expecting fire managers to solve this deep-rooted problem, while not bothering us with smoke, not closing any recreational areas, not exposing anyone to any risk and doing it perfectly every time, is unrealistic.” **Matthew Hurteau, Thomas Swetnam** and **Craig Allen** argue for cool heads to prevail in their **commentary** recently [published](#) in the *Santa Fe New Mexican*, “**Use All the Tools to Improve Forest Health.**”

PBAs: Yesterday’s [photo story](#) from NPR, “How These **Neighbors Use Fire** to Revitalize Their Communities, and Land,” comes from a photojournalist Andria Hautamaki. She was introduced to Great Plains burn associations by **Lenya Quinn-Davidson** at the 2021 Wildfire in the West [workshop](#), and mentions the role of Great Plains practitioners in the introduction of PBAs to California.

Jobs

Monitoring: The **Colorado State Forest Service** is hiring a **forest monitoring program manager**. For details, see Colorado State University jobs ([posting 202200757AP](#)); applications are due by **June 13**.

FMO: The **National Park Service** is hiring a **fire management officer** for Grand Teton National Park. See the [listing](#) on usajobs.gov for details; applications are due by **June 16**.

FAC Net: The **Watershed Research and Training Center** is hiring a **member services associate** to support community-based fire adaptation leaders through the **Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network**. See the [job announcement](#) for details; applications are due by **June 17**.

FAC Coordinator: The **Deschutes County Natural Resources Department** is seeking a **fire adapted communities coordinator** to manage a countywide preparedness program in cooperation with the **Project Wildfire** steering committee. See the [position description](#) for details; applications are due by **June 19**.

Burn Coordinator: The **North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources** is hiring a **coastal ecological burn coordinator**. Details are on governmentjobs.com ([job number DPR65034243](#)); applications are due by **June 20**.

Assistant Director: The **New Mexico** chapter of **The Nature Conservancy** is hiring an **assistant state director for conservation programs**. Details are on the Conservancy's careers page ([job ID 51637](#)); applications are due by **July 3**. Current employees should apply through [PeopleSoft](#).

Preserve Management: The **Florida** chapter of **The Nature Conservancy** is seeking a **preserve management director** to oversee the management of 24 preserves in the state. Details are on the Conservancy's careers page ([job ID 51639](#)); applications are due by **July 15**. Current employees should apply through [PeopleSoft](#).

Conservation Director: **The Nature Conservancy** is hiring a **Montana director of conservation**. Details are on TNC's career page ([job ID 51587](#)); current employees should apply through [PeopleSoft](#).

Communications: **Tall Timbers Research Station & Land Conservancy** is hiring a **communications coordinator** to work as part of a three-person team. Details are on the Tall Timbers [employment page](#).

Webinars

June 8
new listing

Introducing the North American Fire-Scar Network

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

Ellis Margolis and Christopher Guiterman will be the presenters on this webinar hosted by the JFSP Fire Science Exchange Network. Details & registration: https://berkeley.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_4ZdErO3eTMayzb1L4Qiulw

June 8
new listing

Briefing for NGO Partners on New Report on Catastrophic Wildfires and Prescribed Burning

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

Will Barrett, Lee Ann Hill and Diana Van Vleet will speak about the report "Can Prescribed Fires Mitigate Health Harm?" that the American Lung Association will announce on this date. Details & registration: https://teams.microsoft.com/registration/ksbAgTjUaU6Q88DyyIpOxw,NKUV50ODQkaKtjJr9Cr-UQ,L6ggU3ep0k-p61xpnKdzgA,vR7hWu3uOUqp4ps28f2Y_g,xmt_Y_n0XU--r9T8_6xlZQ,mzOJ5tbO0kKPntKayCwqeQ

June 21
new listing

Structural Damage from Wildfires in Wildland-Urban Interface Communities

2:00 Pacific / 3:00 Mountain / 4:00 Central / 5:00 Eastern

Negar Elhami-Khorasani will be the presenter on this webinar from the California Fire Science Consortium.

Details & registration:

https://berkeley.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_4ZdErO3eTMayzb1L4Qiulw

June 22
new listing

Denver Water and the US Forest Service Spent Over \$60 Million to Protect Denver's Water Supply. Did It Work?

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

Kelly Jones will be the presenter on this Southwest Fire Science Consortium webinar.

Details & registration:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcucOitrTqvGtbY67LFAGFePd4vb3PX48t>

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=>

Network Workshops & Field Tours

June 6-10

Fire Learning Network / Wintergreen, VA

FLN leads and key partners are gathered at this national workshop.

Prescribed Fire Training Exchanges (TREX) & Cooperative Burning

September 19-30
deadline

Maine Prescribed Fire Training Exchange

The Maine Prescribed Fire Council will be hosting the first TREX in the state.

Details: see the [event website](#); applications are due by **June 15**

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

Oct. 31-Nov. 13

Flagstaff Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Flagstaff, AZ

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.

June 9

North Georgia Prescribed Fire Council Annual Meeting / Jasper, GA

Information: <https://www.garxfire.com/index.php/events>

- June 16** **Reintroducing Fire In Mixed and High-Severity Fire Regimes: Prescribed Fire Planning, Implementation and Effects in Lodgepole and Subalpine Forests / Missoula or Whitefish, MT**
Two full-day field trips are being hosted by the Northern Rockies Fire Science Network. (The Missoula trip will be in the Blackfoot watershed, an FLN landscape.) Information: <https://www.nrfirescience.org/event/reintroducing-fire-mixed-and-high-severity-fire-regimes-prescribed-fire-planning>
- October 4-7 deadline** **Fire Ecology Across Boundaries: Connecting Science and Management / Florence, Italy & online**
Proposals for in-person or virtual sessions and presentations are due June 15. Information: <https://fireacrossboundaries.org/>
- October 25-29** **14th Biennial Longleaf Conference: Rekindling Our Connections / Wilmington, NC**
Information: <https://fireacrossboundaries.org/>
- December 6-8 new listing** **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 in Wintergreen, VA June 5-10; out June 13, 17.
- James Miller** – james.miller@tnc.org – James is in the office.
- Jeremy Bailey** – jeremy_bailey@tnc.org – Jeremy is in the office.
- Laurel Kays** – laurel.kays@tnc.org – Laurel is in Wintergreen, VA June 5-10.
- Lemaine Peo** – lemaine.peo@tnc.org – Lemaine is out June 24.
- Marek Smith** – marek_smith@tnc.org – Marek is in Wintergreen, VA June 5-10; out June 13-14; and in DC June 22.
- Mary Huffman** – mhuffman@tnc.org – Mary is in Weitchpec, CA June 28-July 1.
- Miranda Flora** – miranda.flora@tnc.org – Miranda is in Wintergreen, VA June 5-10.
- Liz Rank** (editor) – lrnk@tnc.org – Liz is out Thursdays.
- Note:** June 20—Juneteenth—is a Conservancy holiday.

Full Links

- News from the Field—CA—Good Fire: <https://karuktribeclimatechangeprojects.com/good-fire/>
- News from the Field—CA: <https://farmercampus.com/2022/01/05/cultural-burning/>
- News from the Field—IA:
<http://www.conservationgateway.org/ConservationPractices/FireLandscapes/HabitatProtectionandRestoration/Training/TrainingExchanges/Documents/LoessHills-CoopBurnWeek-2022-Summary.pdf>
- News from the Field—FAC Net: <https://tnc.box.com/s/0q4fqw2o3nf5ktdt0cgtckdrc50jaajm>
- News from the Field—WTREX—Origin story: <https://www.nature.org/en-us/about-us/where-we-work/united-states/virginia/stories-in-virginia/trailblazers-women-in-fire/>
Five women—<https://www.blueridgeoutdoors.com/exclude/training-days/>

Funding—AIM: <https://mailchi.mp/2b44f26a066a/coco-newsletter-grant-opportunity-march-15685109>

Resources—New FAC tool: <https://fireadaptednetwork.org/introducing-the-fire-adapted-communities-pathways-tool/>

Resources—BK radios: <https://www.nwcg.gov/sites/default/files/committee/docs/etc-ea-2022-04.pdf>

Resources—Water pumps: <https://www.nwcg.gov/sites/default/files/committee/docs/etc-eb-2022-01.pdf>

Resources—Biochar: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/rmrs/sites/default/files/documents/SYCU-Bulletin-BiocharAtoZ-May2022.pdf>

Resources—Data scale:
<http://www.conservationgateway.org/ConservationPractices/FireLandscapes/LANDFIRE/Pages/landscape-scale-landfire.aspx>

Articles & Reports—Wildfire forecast—Article: <https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1748-9326/ac6886>
ScienceDaily: <https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2022/05/220524124913.htm>

Articles & Reports—Adaptation strategies: https://www.fs.fed.us/rm/pubs_journals/2022/rmrs_2022_sample_m001.pdf

In the News: Rx escapes: https://www.santafenewmexican.com/opinion/commentary/use-all-the-tools-to-improve-forest-health/article_af72dd50-dbdb-11ec-b9ef-637715a1765c.html

In the News—PBAs: <https://www.npr.org/sections/pictureshow/2022/06/07/1101257256/neighbors-use-prescribed-fire-to-restore-great-plains-grasslands>

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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