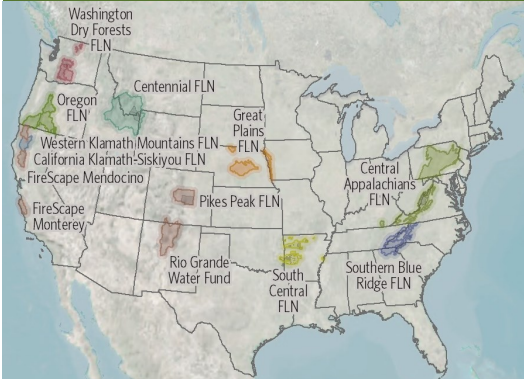


SOUTHERN BLUE RIDGE FIRE LEARNING NETWORK



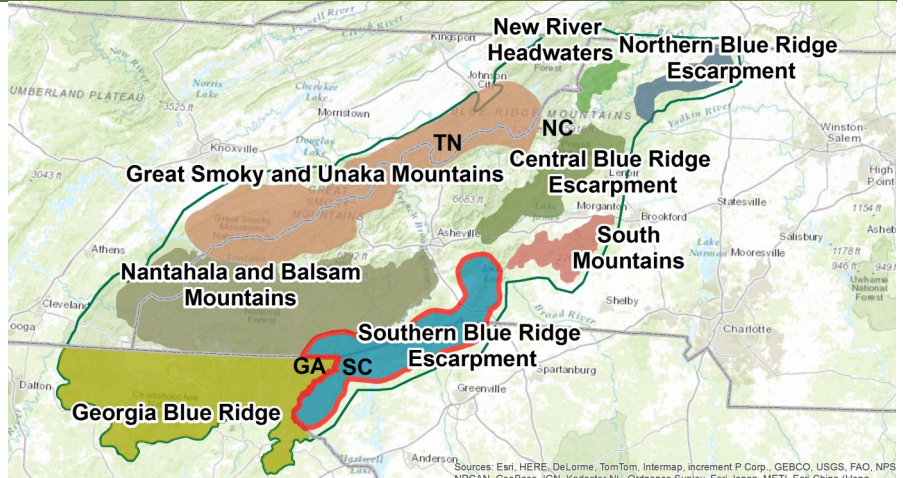
Regional Fire Learning Networks

SOUTHERN BLUE RIDGE ESCARPMENT

This landscape spans the state line between North and South Carolina, along the transition zone between the Piedmont and Mountains. This area harbors an unusually unique diversity of flora and fauna. Multiple partners in two states are working at varying scales to bring fire back to mountains. Much research and monitoring is conducted here, including the national [Fire and Fire Surrogate \(FFS\) study](#) and the longest ongoing monitoring program for prescribed fire in the Southern Appalachian Mountains.

LANDSCAPE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ▶ Stakeholder engagement resulted in a [watershed management plan](#) that includes a fire program for 30,000 acres of watershed.
- ▶ Prepared to implement a complex, multi-stakeholder burn that spans state borders.
- ▶ Building capacity by providing basic fire training to partners and more than doubling burning acreage.
- ▶ Acquired preservation land.
- ▶ Completed [Ecological Zone Mapping](#) and [Southern Wildfire Risk Assessment](#) for the entire landscape.



Landscapes of the Southern Blue Ridge Fire Learning Network

NETWORK PRIORITIES

- Build Capacity for large-scale, cross-boundary treatments.
- Integrate social and ecological function of fire on landscapes.
- Inspire Fire Adapted human Communities in additional landscapes.



Successful implementation of complex, multi-stakeholder, cross-boundary burns requires much planning and communication among partners.



Collaborative efforts resulted in implementation of six burns at both high and low elevations totaling 700 acres.

LANDSCAPE GOALS

- ▶ Develop a strategic outreach and communication plan based on approaches taken by network partners.
- ▶ Implement a complex, large-scale, multi-agency burn on 2,800 acres in two states.
- ▶ Demonstrate the connection between fire and water through watershed-scale partnerships and successful restoration activities.
- ▶ Conduct a first-entry burn as well as second and fourth-entry burns.

LANDSCAPE PARTNERS

Carolina Mountain Land Conservancy
 Duke Energy
 Greenville Water
 North Carolina Forest Service
 North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission
 North Carolina Division of Parks and Recreation
 South Carolina Forestry Commission
 South Carolina State Parks
 The Nature Conservancy—North Carolina, South Carolina
 USDA Forest Service—Sumter National Forest

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