

FLN Networker No. 341: November 2, 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: Michael Wara and Bill Tripp spoke with Marketplace radio for the [story](#) “When **Prescribed Burns** Spiral Into Devastating Wildfires, **Who Pays** the Price?”

Maine: September’s **Maine TREX**, the **first TREX in the Northeast**, was a thoroughly successful event—despite the rain, chilly weather and a hurricane-driven wind shift. Check out the **North Atlantic Fire Science Exchange** [blog post](#) for a good overview of the event by **Amanda Mahaffey** (amanda@forestguild.org). Another piece, on the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Water [blog](#), takes a **deep dive into a burn** conducted at the **Kennebunk Plains WMA**.

Maryland: *Biohabitats* has an **interview** with **Potomac Headwaters FLN** landscape lead **Deborah Landau** (dlandau@tnc.org) in its [fall equinox issue](#). In it, she talks about how she developed an interest in fire during her studies in entomology and plant biology, how **prescribed fire is used to support biodiversity**, and what goes into planning and implementing a prescribed burn.

Montana/Wyoming: The **Island Park Sustainable Fire Community** is **expanding** to the Greater Yellowstone Area. The newly formed **Greater Yellowstone Fire Action Network** (GYFAN) met for its **first in-person workshop** in mid-October, focusing on crafting messages. People from **all walks of wildfire fire mitigation life** were present, with representation from organizations including fire adapted community groups, fire departments, a local county commission, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, U.S. Forest Service, The Nature Conservancy and FLN staff. For more information on GYFAN, contact **Liz Davy** (lizdavy88@gmail.com).

North Carolina: In September, several **Southern Blue Ridge FLN** partners—led by the new **Southern Blue Ridge Prescribed Burn Association** and the **Forest Stewards Guild**—held a **Fire Fair** for new (and potential) PBA members, college students, landowners and community members. Read more in the [latest Notes from the Field](#)—including links to four public **Learn-and-Burn events** being held in November and December.

Canada: The **Canadian Prairies Prescribed Fire Training Exchange**—the **first TREX in Canada**—took place in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, in the middle of October. **Forty people** took part—including **TREX coaches Brad Elder** (brad.elder@doane.edu) and **Kody Wohlers** (kwohlers@inhf.org). In spite of drought, participants were able to burn on the majority of days. Among the training highlights, **six burn bosses** gained experience and mentoring in their leadership roles, supporting a key capacity need in the region. For more, see the [illustrated summary](#) from the **Canadian Prairies Prescribed Fire Exchange** ([website](#)) or contact **Dinyar Minocher** (dminocher@meewasin.com).

Spain: The **Andalucía TREX** got **underway near Córdoba and Seville** over the weekend, bringing together about 40 people, including **TREX coach Gabriel Cahalan** (gcahalan@tnc.org). For more, see the [announcement](#) “Ya Está en Marcha el TREX Andalucía 2022” on OSBOdigit@l.

Funding: JFSP

JFSP: The **Joint Fire Science Program** has **several funding announcements** [open](#) through **December 20**. These include the **Graduate Research Innovation** (GRIN) Award for U.S. graduate students in wildland fire and related fields.

Input Requested: Rx Implementation / Wildfire Commission

Rx Implementation: A **group of partners** led by the **Rural Voices for Conservation Coalition** (and including the **FLN**) is conducting a **national survey** to better understand **current capacity for and barriers to prescribed fire**. Visit the [survey website](#) for more information and a link to the survey, which is open through **November 30**.

Wildfire Commission: The federal **Wildland Fire Mitigation and Management Commission** has held its first couple of meetings, and workgroups have begun discussing several topics. Other workgroups will take up additional topics over the next few months. You can now **submit recommendations** [via a web form](#) to the four current workgroups: **aviation strategy**, **Cohesive Strategy**, **landscapes** and **communities**. (The remainder of the topics, and when recommendations will be accepted for each, are also on that page.)

Resources: Land Use Planning / Evacuation / R9 CWPPs

Land Use Planning: **Headwaters Economics** has developed [Firetopia](#), a **new toolbox** for community land use planning for wildfire, with **examples and resources** in five topic areas—community plans, land development, building and fire codes, fuels treatment, and funding and engagement.

Evacuation: Each issue of *The FAC Circular*, FAC Net's monthly newsletter, focuses on one of the ten aspects of fire adapted communities work depicted in the FAC graphic ([English](#), [Spanish](#)). The [October issue](#) covers safety and evacuation, linking to numerous **resources, blog posts and other information**. You can **stay in the FAC loop** by [subscribing](#) to this newsletter.

R9 CWPPs: The **Forest Service** has a [dashboard](#) for Community Wildfire Protection Plans in the **Eastern Region** (R9); it includes a **map and basic data** on each plan.

Articles & Reports: Resilience / Environmental Justice / Outreach / Aspen

Forest Resilience: The **U.S. Forest Service** [fact sheet](#) "Management To **Improve Forest Resilience** and **Reduce Wildfire Risk**" gives a brief overview of the topic, with **numerous links** to articles, syntheses and resources.

Environmental Justice: The authors of the [article](#) "A Burning Issue: Reviewing the Socio-Demographic and Environmental Justice Aspects of the **Wildfire Literature**" explored the English-language wildfire literature from around the world, laying out **four components of environmental justice** (EJ) as it pertains to wildfire. They recommend that EJ be used in environmental policy and management efforts—but as a **lens or framework**, rather than quantitative or binary metric.

Outreach: Authors of the [paper](#) "**Comparing Land Manager and Community Perceptions** of a Colorado Prescribed Fire Outreach Program" conducted interviews of "information providers" and "outreach targets" in a landscape in northern Colorado, having **each group assess** the effectiveness of **the communication**. Although the sample size was small, some interesting findings emerged. For example, common phrases can mean different things: "Notably, outreach targets often interpreted the term 'forest restoration' differently than information providers," in this case as a return to some historical condition, rather than a suite of forest health measures. The needs of "outreach targets" also **evolve through time**.

Aspen: The **Southern Rockies Fire Science Network** has compiled a workshop [summary](#) from the August **Colorado Aspen Summit**. One item highlighted is a **unique post-fire issue**: fire-hardened spikes from small stems rising from rhizomes—management suggestions are welcomed.

In the News: Rx Liability / Flood Insurance

Rx Liability: In the [piece](#) “Empowering Private Landowners to Prevent Wildfires,” *Stanford News* interviewed **Michael Wara** about California’s new \$20 million **liability fund**, focusing on the need for **more private land burning**—and developing a **realistic view of its risks**.

Flood Insurance: **FEMA** recently put out a [press release](#) ([Spanish version](#)) urging even those not living on flood plains to consider carrying flood insurance. “Unlike many causes of damage, **flooding and mudflows** are generally **not covered by a homeowners’ policy**.”

Book Review

Both Sides of the Fireline: Memoir of a Transgender Firefighter (Bobbie Scopa):

Review—and recommendation—by Hannah Spaul (hspaul@tnc.org):

I was recently inspired to read this book to meet TNC’s required annual hours of training and study on diversity, equity, inclusion and justice. I found it to be **a must-read for anyone on the fireline** and have been compelled to share it broadly. Whether you are familiar with and informed about the challenges transgender firefighters face and experience, or if it’s an area of opportunity for your personal growth and learning, I promise you will find the book a compelling read that will **challenge and inspire you** to be the most inclusive leader and team member you can be. It’s storytelling at its best with lessons in leadership, inclusivity and compassion shared through a **lens of humor and raw experience** from the fireline.

Learn more about the book and the author at <https://bobbieonfire.com/>.

More: Hope

Hope: Read **Laurel Kays’** (laurel.kays@tnc.org) “oddly inspirational” (as described by one reader) FAC Net [blog post](#) “**A Pessimist’s Guide to Functional Hope**.”

Jobs

FMO: The **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service** is seeking a **fire management officer**, based at the Great Dismal Swamp NWR, to be responsible for wildfire suppression and prescribed burn operations for all FWS facilities in **Virginia and West Virginia**. Details are on usajobs.gov ([control no. 686124300](#)); applications are due by **November 7**.

Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities Advisor: **The Nature Conservancy** is seeking a person to “focus on facilitating Indigenous peoples’ and local communities’ conservation voices and choices to be directly and effectively included in key **policy and conservation processes and decisions around the world**.” Details are on the TNC careers page ([job ID 51852](#)); applications are due by **November 9**. Current employees should apply through [PeopleSoft](#).

Burn Crews: **The Nature Conservancy** in **North Carolina** is filling **Sandhills burn crew member** and **burn crew manager** positions. Details are on the TNC careers page ([job ID 52060](#) and [job ID 52062](#), respectively). Current employees should apply through PeopleSoft ([crew member](#) and [crew manager](#)).

Webinars

November 2
new listing

Addressing Equity & Environmental Justice in the Forest Service's Wildfire Crisis Strategy

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

Susan Charnley and Mark Adams will present the second webinar in the Equity and Environmental Justice in Wildfire series from the Northwest Fire Science Consortium and Oregon State University Extension Fire Program. (The first webinar, "Developing a Social Vulnerability Index for Wildfire Risk in Oregon," was [recorded](#) in July.) Register: https://oregonstate.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_7VZsENtxRxqAP6zSx8abFg#/registration

November 3
new listing

UAS/Drones for Prescribed Fire Ignitions

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

Brett Lawrence will be the presenter on this webinar from the Southern Fire Exchange. Society of American Foresters CFE credit is expected.

Register: https://ufl.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_RxiMcLcOTOejQX9v-nO-gw

November 7

Regulating the WUI in Colorado

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

Molly Mowery, Ben Tisdell, Eric Lovegren and Ashley Whitworth will be the presenters on this webinar hosted by the Community Wildfire Planning Center ([blog post](#)), Fire Adapted Colorado, and the American Planning Association.

Register: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYrduuppjwE9J6HMDy5aOj3SShrgG0Xx-D>

November 8
new listing

Wildfires, Communities and Environmental Justice

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

Francisco Escobedo will be the presenter for the third webinar in the Equity and Environmental Justice in Wildfire series from the Northwest Fire Science Consortium and Oregon State University Extension Fire Program.

Register: https://oregonstate.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_4Mkg5iESQ0qnvALJRSI4ig#/registration

November 8
new listing

Can Restoration of Fire-Dependent Ecosystems Reduce Ticks and Tick-Borne Disease Prevalence in the Eastern United States?

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

Michael Gallagher will be the presenter on this webinar hosted by the Oak Woodlands & Forests Fire Consortium and the North Atlantic Fire Science Exchange. Register: <https://umsystem.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcruqoqT8pGdzK0DdqivRRblf9w98IFQ>

November 9
new listing

Next-Generation Fire Planning Tools

8:00 Pacific / 9:00 Mountain / 10:00 Central / 11:00 Eastern (2 hr)

This webinar, moderated by James Furman, will cover several tools, including QUIC-Fire, FastFuels and BurnPro 3D. See the [announcement email](#) for details.

Join the webinar: <https://usfs.zoomgov.com/j/1609938262>

Zoom meeting ID: 160 993 8262, password !2345a

November 9

Forest Regeneration in a Changing Climate, Part 2

10:00 Pacific / 11:00 Mountain / noon Central / 1:00 Eastern (1.5 hrs)

Seven presenters are scheduled to give lightning talks on forest regeneration,

climate change, and Indigenous knowledge exchange in the West in this webinar from the Rocky Mountain Research Station and Southwest Ecological Restoration Institutes. Details: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/rmrs/events/right-seedling-success-partnering-plant-and-policy-opportunities>

November 10

Fueling Collaboration: Talking About Fire

8:00 Pacific / 9:00 Mountain / 10:00 Central / 11:00 Eastern

Season 3 of the “Fueling Collaboration” series from eastern JFSP Fire Science Exchanges and USFS Northern and Southern Research Stations kicks off with this panel discussion featuring Jen Bunty, Virginia McDaniel and Erica Smithwick. Register: <https://www.fuelingcollab.com/>

November 14-18
new listing

SCIENCE x Forests Webinar Series

11:00 Pacific / noon Mountain / 1:00 Central / 2:00 Eastern (daily)

Each day’s webinar has three presentations on a theme—silviculture; climate change; innovations; urban forestry, community and wood utilization; and invasion and outbreaks. See the Forest Service [webinars page](#) for details on presentations.

Join a webinar: <https://usfs.zoomgov.com/j/16104530612>

Zoom meeting ID: 161 0453 0612, password: USFS1905!

November 29

Management and Climate Variability Effects on the Understory Vegetation Productivity Along Forest-Savanna Continuum

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

Arjun Adhikari will be the presenter in the first of a series of webinars from the Oak Woodlands & Forests Fire Consortium. Register:

<https://oakfirescience.com/events/webinar-management-and-climate-variability-effects-on-the-understory-vegetation-productivity-along-forest-savanna-continuum/>

December 1
new listing

Considering Equity in Wildfire Risk and Protection

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

Matthew R. Auer will be the presenter for the final webinar in the Equity and Environmental Justice in Wildfire series from the Northwest Fire Science Consortium and Oregon State University Extension Fire Program.

Register: https://oregonstate.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_b_P3REUmRQGBZzhQ9PNgEg#/registration

December 2
new listing

Pikyav Field Institute (Karuk Tribe)-Western Klamath Restoration Partnership Lecture Series

11:00 Pacific / noon Mountain / 1:00 Central / 2:00 Eastern (2 hr)

Joe Curtis, Sara Worl and Kirsten Vinyeta will be the presenters for the first lecture of this series. Details are on the [WKRP Facebook page](#). Join the webinar:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82881427115?pwd=QitMYjVYN2FTeEdqaFV3SzJJaWE5Zz09>

December 7

LANDFIRE: Informal Office Hours

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

This month’s topic is how LANDFIRE’s [vegetation](#) and cover products are mapped. (Also check out the LANDFIRE [storymap](#) “The New Age of LANDFIRE.”)

Register: <https://tnc.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJlocumupzMpEtN63X--Or1r6CJeJ683Bp5E>

December 15

Fueling Collaboration: Fire and Water

8:00 Pacific / 9:00 Mountain / 10:00 Central / 11:00 Eastern

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/>

Network Workshops & Field Tours

November 16-17

Collaborative Planning Workshop for Wildfire Resilience and Post-Fire Restoration / Nice, CA

This public workshop is hosted by FireScape Mendocino.

Information: <https://www.firescapemendocino.org/events/>

Prescribed Fire Training Exchanges (TREX) & Cooperative Burning

Oct. 29-Nov. 12

Andalucía Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Spain

This TREX is in progress.

Oct. 31-Nov. 13

Flagstaff Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Flagstaff, AZ

This TREX has been postponed.

Nov. 11-Jan. 15

North Bay Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Bay Area, CA

The deadline for this TREX has passed.

November 12-19

Santa Barbara Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Santa Barbara County, CA

The deadline for this TREX has passed.

**Feb. 20-March 3
deadline**

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

People of all backgrounds, genders and professional affiliations are encouraged to apply. To learn more about WTREX, see the [Story Map](#) from the spring 2022 event or read the [2019 brief](#) about WTREX.

Details: see the [announcement](#); [applications](#) are due by November 18

**Feb. 27-Mar. 10
deadline**

Southern Missouri Prescribed Fire Training Exchange / Springfield, MO

Details: see the [announcement](#); applications are due by November 11

Trainings, Conferences, Workshops, Etc.

November 14-18

5th National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy Workshop / Asheville, NC and online

In addition to the in-person workshop, all sessions will be live-streamed and recorded.

Information: <http://cohesivestrategyworkshop.org/>

**Nov. 14-Dec. 11
new listing**

Rx310 Introduction to Fire Effects / online

The University of Idaho is offering this course as a combination of self-paced work and live online discussions. Register by November 28.

Information: <https://mailchi.mp/3481b6db2f64/rx310-training-opportunity-nov-14-to-dec-11-with-self-paced-interactive-lessons-and-live-discussions>

**November 15-16
new listing**

Being an Ally in Indian Country / online

Information: <https://www.nativewellness.com/being-an-ally-in-indian-country1.html>

- November 16-18** **New Mexico Wildland Urban Fire Summit / Santa Fe, NM**
new listing Explore “Community Recovery, Cultivating Resilience” at this event for wildfire preparedness and planning.
 Information: <https://facnm.org/news/2022/10/21/engagement-opportunity-the-2022-wildland-urban-fire-summit>
- January 7-13, 2023** **Southern Area Engine Academy / Barberville, FL**
new listing See the [announcement email](#) for details. Applications are due by December 15.
- January 26-27, 2023** **Pennsylvania Prescribed Fire Council / State College, PA and online**
new listing A group rate on rooms is being held until December 27.
 Agenda & registration: <https://paprescribedfire.org/annual-meeting/>
- April 11-14, 2023** **Colorado Wildland Fire Conference / Fort Collins, CO**
 The conference focus is “Accelerating Adaptation and Managing Expectations.”
 Information: <https://www.wildfire-colorado.com/>
- April 25-28, 2023** **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.
 More information after December 1: <https://fltws.org/>
- May 2-4, 2023** **Cross-Boundary Landscape Restoration Workshop / Fort Collins, CO**
 Information: <https://sweri.org/cross-boundary-landscape-restoration-workshop/>
- December 4-8, 2023** **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>

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Send News, Links & Comments

- Autumn Bjugstad** – autumn.bjugstad@tnc.org – Autumn is out November 4; in Hoopa, CA November 5-11; in a workshop November 14-18.
- Emily Hohman** – emily.hohman@tnc.org – Emily is out November 4-7; in Nice, CA November 15-18.
- 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 out November 8.
- Lemaine Peo** – lemaine.peo@tnc.org – Lemaine is in a workshop November 14-18.
- Marek Smith** – marek_smith@tnc.org – Marek is in Dallas, TX November 1-4; out November 10.
- Mary Huffman** – mhuffman@tnc.org – Mary is in Hoopa, CA November 5-11.
- Miranda Flora** – miranda.flora@tnc.org – Miranda is in the office.
- Liz Rank** (editor) – lrnk@tnc.org – Liz is out Thursdays.

Note: November 11 is a Conservancy holiday

Full Links

News from the Field—CA: <https://www.marketplace.org/2022/10/21/when-prescribed-burns-spiral-into-devastating-wildfires-who-pays-the-price/>

News from the Field—ME—NAFSE blog: <https://www.firesciencenorthatlantic.org/post/maine-trex-2022>
MDIFW blog: <https://www.maine.gov/ifw/blogs/mdifw-blog/fired-about-conservation>

News from the Field—MD: <https://www.biohabitats.com/newsletter/fire-on-the-landscape/expert-ga-deborah-landau/>

News from the Field—NC: http://www.conservationgateway.org/ConservationPractices/FireLandscapes/FireLearningNetwork/USFLNPublications/Documents/180_NotesFromTheField-SBR-FireFair-2022.pdf

News from the Field—Canada: <http://www.conservationgateway.org/ConservationPractices/FireLandscapes/HabitatProtectionandRestoration/Training/TrainingExchanges/Documents/CanadianPrairiesTrex-2022-Summary.pdf>

News from the Field—Spain: <https://osbodigital.es/2022/10/31/ya-esta-en-marcha-el-trex-andalucia-2022/>

Funding—JFSP: https://www.firescience.gov/JFSP_funding_announcements.cfm

Input Requested—Rx implementation: <https://www.ruralvoicescoalition.org/rxfiresurvey>

Input Requested—Wildfire commission: <https://www.usda.gov/topics/disaster-resource-center/wildland-fire/commission/engagement>

Resources—Land use planning: <https://cpaw.headwaterseconomics.org/apps/firetopia/>

Resources—Evacuation—October newsletter: <https://mailchi.mp/fireadaptednetwork.org/fac-circular-october-2022>
FAC graphic—English: <https://fireadaptednetwork.org/resource/fire-adapted-communities-graphic-and-facilitators-guide/>
FAC graphic—Spanish: <https://fireadaptednetwork.org/resource/grafico-de-comunidades/>
Subscribe: <https://fireadaptednetwork.org/subscribe/>

Resources—R9 CWPPs: <https://www.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/5a31e5f2e3fa4f77ac71ca366067ded2>

Articles & Reports—Forest resilience: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/research/sites/default/files/2022-09/Improving-Forest-Resilience.pdf>

Articles & Reports—Environmental justice: https://www.fs.usda.gov/psw/publications/escobedo/psw_2022_escobedo006_thomas.pdf

Articles & Reports—Outreach: https://www.fs.usda.gov/rm/pubs_journals/2022/rmrs_2022_novak_k001.pdf

Articles & Reports—Aspen: <https://mailchi.mp/colostate.edu/the-latest-unique-aspen-science-management-in-the-rockies>

In the News—Rx liability: <https://news.stanford.edu/2022/09/26/empowering-private-landowners-prevent-wildfires/>

In the News—Flood insurance: <https://www.fema.gov/press-release/20221027/purchase-flood-insurance-protect-what-youve-built>

More—Hope: <https://fireadaptednetwork.org/a-pessimists-guide-to-functional-hope/>

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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