



SOUTHERN Fire Exchange

A JFSP Knowledge Exchange Consortium



FIRE LINES

A Joint Newsletter of the Southern Fire Exchange and the Southeastern Section of the Association for Fire Ecology

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Education and Training Opportunities This Fall

Upcoming webinars and workshops related to fire science and management are designed for both fire managers and scientists, and we hope that you are able to participate in those that interest you!

Webinars

The Southern Fire Exchange is partnering with Southern Regional Extension Forestry to offer four webinars on fire-related topics. We are excited about our presenter line-up and for the opportunity to provide you with information that was prioritized in our consortium needs assessment. It is easy to participate, and continuing education credits are available! All webinars will be hosted by the [Forestry & Natural Resources Webinar Portal](#), and will be archived on the portal for future viewing. To learn more about these webinars and how to participate, [click here](#).

Using the Southern Fire Exchange Resource Center

September 28, 12pm to 1pm (EDT)
Joseph Roise, North Carolina State University
Learn how to use the Resource Center to meet your information needs and to interact with others.

Using Smoke Prediction Models

October 19, 12pm to 1pm (EDT)
Daniel Stratton, USDA Forest Service
Become familiar with the characteristics, uses, and limitations of emission and smoke models.

Prescribed Fire and the Public: Myths and Realities

November 16, 12pm to 1pm (EDT)
Sarah McCaffrey, USDA Forest Service
Gain insights about the social acceptability of prescribed fire and variables influencing public approval.

Interagency Fuel Treatment Decision Support System

December 14, 12pm to 1pm (EDT)
Stacy Drury, Sonoma Technology, Inc.
Find out about this new web-based decision support system and view an online demonstration of IFTDSS.

Also, be sure to check out the webinar schedules for other JFSP Knowledge Exchange Consortia. Many of the webinars are applicable to multiple locations or ecosystems. View the recent blog post, [It's the Webinar Time of Year!](#) by the Alaska Fire Science Consortium, to see a listing of upcoming webinars.

Fuels Management Workshop

[Registration is now open](#) for the September 28 workshop in Olustee, Florida from 9:30am to 12:30pm. This workshop—*Landscape-scale Mechanical Fuels Reduction Treatment Effects on Fire Behavior, Fuel Loads, and Forest Ecology*—includes a tour and discussion of new research conducted at the Osceola National Forest to quantify the wildfire risk reduction effectiveness and consequences to soil and vegetation of mechanically shredding and burning understory shrubs and small trees in pine flatwoods. This workshop is sponsored by Conserved Forest Ecosystems Outreach and Research Cooperative (CFEOR), the Southern Fire Exchange, University of Florida's School of Forest Resources and Conservation, and the USDA Forest Service.

This workshop is free to CFEOR members (registration period 8/26/11-9/28/11) and costs \$5 for non-CFEOR members (registration period 9/5/11- 9/27/11). Continuing education credits are available. Later this fall, the workshop presentations and materials will be archived on the SFE Resource Center.

Fire and Pocosins: Lessons Learned Conference

The Nature Conservancy is holding a conference focused on fire within pocosin ecosystems—October 11, 2011 in Maple Hill, North Carolina from 9am to 4pm. The goal of this conference is for persons directly engaged with pocosin fires, whether combating wildfires or conducting prescribed burns, to share information and experience in order to better meet their objectives. Practitioner lessons, a question and answer session, and an afternoon field trip to TNC's Shaken Creek Preserve are planned.

A \$5 fee is requested for lunch, and you must register in advance to attend. For the agenda and registration information, please contact Hervey McIver at hmciver@tnc.org.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For general questions, to provide feedback, or to join the listserve, email sfe@ifas.ufl.edu.

Consortium Leads

Leda Kobziar (PI)
Alan Long (Director, Co-PI)
Annie Hermansen-Baez (Co-PI)
Kevin Robertson (Co-PI)
Joe Roise (Co-PI)
Toddi Steelman (Co-PI)

Consortium Staff

Carol Armstrong (TTRS Librarian)
Chet Buell (IT Specialist)
John Diaz (Graduate Assistant)
Annie Oxarart (Tech Transfer)
Justin Shedd (GIS Specialist)

Learn more about our [Partners and the JFSP Knowledge Exchange Consortia](#).

Visit the SFE Resource Center
www.southernfireexchange.org



Partner Spotlight: American Forest Foundation

The American Forest Foundation (AFF) works on-the-ground with families, teachers, and elected officials to promote stewardship and protect our nation's forest heritage. **Project Learning Tree**[®], AFF's environmental education program, works with tens of thousands of teachers each year. In an era where more and more children are disconnected from nature,



PHOTO CREDIT: AFF

the program works to grow the next generation of leaders ready to inherit America's natural legacy. The **American Tree Farm System**[®], AFF's sustainable woodland system, helps nearly 88,000 family forest owners meet stringent third-party standards for managing nearly 26 million acres of forestland. The program's work with landowners is particularly important in the South, where approximately 87 percent of forested lands are privately owned by companies, individuals, and families (see **Southern Forests for the Future** for more information).

In addition, AFF advocates for policy supporting conservation activities—including support for increased opportunities to use prescribed fire on privately-owned forests. Specifically, AFF recommends policies that

- Ensure landowners have a prescribed burn plan that addresses potential risks and escape fires;
- Enable controlled burning to be safely used as a management tool on family-owned forests, and address public sentiments, smoke management, and air quality concerns; and
- Encourage the use of science-based standards for insurance and liability coverage to allow fire application in a safe and cost-effective manner.

Learn more about AFF's policy priorities at www.forestfoundation.org/currentissues.

AFF collaboration with the Southern Fire Exchange includes a position on our Advisory Board and transmitting SFE updates about newsletters, fact sheets, and educational opportunities through their state organizations to landowners.

Learn more about AFF and their programs:

Website: www.forestfoundation.org

Blog: www.forestfoundation.org/american-forest-foundation-blog

Facebook: www.facebook.com/AmericanForestFoundation

Twitter: www.twitter.com/AmForestFndn

Sign up for the newsletter: www.forestfoundation.org/newsletters

Requesting Your Input

The SFE is entering its second year of enhancing access to, and application of, fire science information. We have a successful online Resource Center (www.southernfireexchange.org); a growing 'library' of fact sheets, the *Fire Lines* newsletter, research highlight presentations, and informational webinars; and a track record of working with Prescribed Fire Councils and other groups in the South. We want our second year to be even more productive in meeting your specific needs. As we begin our planning process for second year activities, we welcome your input: What fire research topics do you need to hear more about? Are you planning a fire training activity in the coming year that we could support with research highlights? How can we improve your access to fire information and research results? **Send your answers to these questions or other ideas to sfe@ifas.ufl.edu.** And follow us on Twitter @SEfirescience for announcements about new publications and educational events.

Our hearts go out to all those affected by the recent wildfires in Texas. If you are interested in supporting relief efforts, here are a few of the organizations accepting online donations:

American Red Cross (www.houstonredcross.org)

Salvation Army (www.salvationarmytexas.org)

Texas Wildfire Relief Fund (<http://txwildfirerelief.org>)



UPCOMING EVENTS

Visit the **SFE Calendar** to learn more about upcoming workshops, trainings, field trips, demonstrations, and other opportunities. To add an event to our calendar, please send the event information to sfe@ifas.ufl.edu.

Prescribed Fire Council Meetings

Alabama PFC Annual Meeting

September 28, 2011
Andalusia, Alabama

Georgia PFC Annual Meeting

September 29, 2011
Tifton, Georgia

South Carolina PFC Annual Meeting

September 29, 2011
Florence, South Carolina

North Florida PFC Fall Meeting

October 12, 2011
Tallahassee, Florida

Central Florida PFC Fall Meeting

November 1, 2011
Kissimmee, Florida

Conferences

9th Symposium on Fire and Forest Meteorology

October 18-20, 2011
Palm Springs, California

NFPA Backyards & Beyond Wildland Fire Education Conference

October 27-29, 2011
Denver, Colorado

38th Natural Areas Conference

November 1-4, 2011
Tallahassee, Florida

Exploring the Mega-fire Reality Conference

November 14-17, 2011
Tallahassee, Florida

SAMAB 21st Annual Conference

November 15-17, 2011
Asheville, North Carolina

8th Southern Forestry and Natural Resources GIS Conference

December 11-13, 2011
Athens, Georgia

Southwest Fire Ecology Conference

February 27-March 1, 2012
Santa Fe, New Mexico
Abstract deadline October 1, 2011

3rd Human Dimensions of Wildland Fire Conference

April 17-19, 2012
Seattle, Washington
Abstract deadline December 15, 2011