

Northeast – Midwest Regional Prescribed Fire Science and Management Workshop
20 States; One Shared Mission
The Madison Concourse Hotel - Madison, Wisconsin
August 29-31, 2023

Monday, August 28, 2023	
SPECIAL TRAINING/WORKSHOP SESSION	
University Room AB	
10:00-5:00	Smoke TOOLS Workshop Instructors: Trent Wickman, Air Quality Specialist, USDA Forest Service, Eastern Region and Alexia Prospero, Air Resource Specialist, USDA Forest Service, Eastern Region
Reception and Registration Area	
4:00 - 6:00	Early Registration and Check-In
Tuesday, August 29, 2023	
DAY 1: THEME: <i>Welcome to Wisconsin all Fire Practitioners! Cultural Fire Session, Liability Insurance, Private Lands Rx Fire, Cooperative Fire, Rx Fire Councils and Rx Burn Associations</i>	
Reception and Registration Area	
7:00 - 8:00	Registration and Check-In
Madison/Wisconsin Ballroom	
8:00 - 8:15	Welcome and Leaders' Intent Dave Celino, Chief Fire Warden, Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
8:15 - 8:45	Welcome to Wisconsin Heather Berklund, WI State Forester and Jim Barnier, WI State Fire Supervisor
8:45 - 9:45	Cultural Fire Panel Moderator: Mike Dockry, PhD, Assistant Professor, University of Minnesota Panelists: Ron Waukau, Forest Manager, Menominee Tribal Enterprises Vern Northrup, retired firefighter, Fond du Lac Band of Ojibwe Ferlin Davis Anderson, Supervisor of Environmental Sciences, Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community Nisogaabokwe - Melonee Montano, Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, Traditional Ecological Knowledge Outreach Specialist, Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC)
9:45 - 10:15	NETWORKING BREAK with Sponsors and Exhibitors - Foyer Area
Madison/Wisconsin Ballroom	
10:15 - 11:15	How Does Fire Fit into the Holistic View of Resource Management? Panel discussion with: Steve Miller, Regional Director, Fire and Aviation, USDA Forest Service Region 9 (Eastern Region) Jeb Barzen, Chair, Wisconsin Prescribed Fire Council and Private Lands Conservation LLC James Furman, Fire Management Specialist, USDA Forest Service Brad Strobel, Wildlife Biologist, USFWS at Necedah National Wildlife Refuge
Madison/Wisconsin Ballroom	
11:15 - 12:15	Landowner Values and Perceptions of Prescribed Fire in the Northeastern US Melissa M. Kreye, Assistant Professor of Forest Resources Management and Extension Specialist, Department of Ecosystem Science and Management, Pennsylvania State University
12:15 - 1:45	LUNCH - boxed lunch provided - Luncheon live concert (S. Hamilton corner of the Capitol lawn)
Madison/Wisconsin Ballroom	
1:45 - 2:00	Welcome Back and Leaders' Intent Steve Miller, Regional Director, Fire and Aviation, USDA Forest Service Region 9 (Eastern Region)
2:00-3:00	Addressing Rx Fire Liability and Insurance Needs and Opportunities Panel Carissa Wonkka, Research Ecologist, USDA-ARS, Northern Plains Agricultural Laboratory Mark Horn, Conservation Journalist, Conservation Media, LLC Jim Elleson, Wisconsin Prescribed Fire Council David Dybdahl, founder, American Risk Management Resources Network, LLC (ARMR)
3:00 - 3:30	NETWORKING BREAK with Sponsors and Exhibitors - Foyer Area

3:30 - 4:30	The Value of Prescribed Fire Councils Panel Discussion with: Jeb Barzen, Chair, Wisconsin Prescribed Fire Council and Private Lands Conservation LLC Mark Melvin, retired, The Jones Center Zach Prusak, Wildland Fire Training Specialist, Tall Timbers Research Station and current Chair of the Coalition of Rx Fire Councils Jonathan Stober, Wildlife Biologist, USDA/US Forest Service, Talladega National Forest, Shoal Creek Ranger District		
4:30 - 5:30	Investment and Returns in Cooperative Burning - PBAs, Cooperative Burns Week and TREX Ryan Gauger, Fire and Stewardship Manager, The Nature Conservancy Scott Moats, Director of Lands/Fire Manager (IA & MO), The Nature Conservancy Jess F. Crockford, SW Regional Coordinator, Kansas Prescribed Fire Council Kody Wohlers, Loess Hills Land Stewardship Director George Jensen, Coordinator of the Southwest Georgia PBA, Tall Timbers Research Station		
5:30-7:30	Social and Poster Session - Wisconsin Ballroom (posters) & Foyer		
8:00 - 9:00	NE-MW Fire Council Chair meeting University Rooms		
Wednesday, August 30, 2023			
DAY 2: THEME: Tools & Technology, Ecosystems & Ecology, Tracking Fires, Applied Research and Management Practices			
7:00 AM	Registration Desk Open		
Madison/Wisconsin Ballroom			
8:00 - 8:20	Welcome and Leaders' Intent Amanda Mahaffey, Deputy Director, Forest Stewards Guild		
8:20 - 9:30	Useful tools for managing, monitoring and modeling Rx fires, and the integration of UAS technology with prescribed burn projects James Furman, Fire Management Specialist, USDA Forest Service Mrinal Kumar, Professor, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, The Ohio State University Roger Williams, Associate Professor of Forest Management & Wildland Fire Science, School of Environment & Natural Resources, The Ohio State University		
	Madison Ballroom	University Rooms	
9:30 - 10:15	Tech support for shared stewardship planning and comprehensive reporting on prescribed fires Lowell Ballard, Director of Geospatial Solutions, Timmons Group Chris Schmidt, Space Science and Engineering Center, University of Wisconsin-Madison	Tracking Wildfires and Rx Fires: Success Stories Michele Witecha, Prescribed Fire Specialist, The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR)	
10:15 - 10:40	NETWORKING BREAK with Sponsors and Exhibitors - Foyer Area		
Madison/Wisconsin Ballroom			
10:40 - 11:10	EPA and Air Quality Update: What the Changes Mean for You Trent Wickman, Air Quality Specialist, USDA Forest Service, Eastern Region		
	Madison Ballroom	University Rooms	
11:10 - 11:55	Insufficient consideration of the impact of long-term drought on prescribed fire behavior Tim Brown, PhD, Director, Western Regional Climate Center, and Program for Climate, Ecosystem and Fire Applications (CEFA), Desert Research Institute Tamara Wall, PhD, Research Professor, Atmospheric Science, Desert Research Institute	Fire Ecology in The Upper Midwest: Effects of Fire Seasonality & Intensity on Controlling Woody Plants Jed Meunier, WI DNR Research Scientist	
11:55 - 1:15	LUNCH - On your own		
1:15 - 2:15	Fire: A Tool or a Relationship? Gerould Wilhelm, PhD, Director of Research, Conservation Research Institute		
2:15 - 3:15	Fire in the NE-MW - a tree ring fire scar history of fire across key forest ecosystems across the region Joe Marschall, Senior Research Associate, Center for Tree-Ring Science at the University of Missouri Evan Larson, Professor, Department of Environmental Sciences & Society, University of Wisconsin-Platteville John Neely, Assistant Fire Management Officer, USDA-Forest Service, White Mountain National Forest		
3:15 - 3:45	NETWORKING BREAK with Sponsors and Exhibitors - Foyer Area		

	Madison Ballroom	Assembly	University Rooms
3:45 - 4:45	The Fire Gap in Oak Ecosystems - Scaling up Oak Ecosystem Burn Units Matt Zine, Moderator, Habitat and Management Specialist, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Gregory Nowacki, Ph.D., Regional Ecosystem Mapping Leader, USDA Forest Service Eastern Region Melissa Thomas-Van Gundy, PhD, Project Leader, Research Forester Forest Service, Northern Research Station Bennie Terrell, Forest Fuels Specialist, Mark Twain National Forest	Rx Fire in Prairie Ecosystems Rich Henderson, WI Department of Natural Resources (retired), The Prairie Enthusiasts (volunteer)	Rx Fire in the Pine Barrens Michael Gallagher, Research Ecologist, Northern Research Station John Lampereur, District Silviculturist, Forest Service, Lakewood/Laona RD, Chequamegon-Nicolet NF
Madison/Wisconsin Ballroom			
4:45 - 5:30	Fire Needs Assessments Panel Bill Kleiman, Project Director, Nachusa Grasslands, The Nature Conservancy, Illinois Chapter Mike Lynch, Great Lakes Director, Forest Stewards Guild		
	Madison Ballroom	University Rooms A/B	
5:30 - 6:30	Building a Prescribed Fire Guide for the NE-MW – A Scoping Discussion Nick Skowronski, Wildland Fire Research Scientist, Northern Research Station, USDA Forest Service Amanda Mahaffey, Deputy Director, Forest Stewards Guild	Panel on the Future of Fire History in the NE-MW: Seeking managers input into how to help guide research and management Moderator: Lane Johnson, Research Forester, University of Minnesota Cloquet Forestry Center	
Thursday, August 31, 2023			
DAY 3: THEME			
<i>Pulling it All Together: Collaborative Planning, Resource Sharing, CPBM Programs, Communication Strategies, Training the Next Generation and National Policy Challenges/Opportunities</i>			
7:00 AM	Registration Desk Open		
Madison/Wisconsin Ballroom			
8:00 - 8:40	One Fire at a Time: 32 Years of Restoring EcoSystem Health in a Rare Inland Pine Barren Neil Gifford, Albany Pine Bush Preserve Commission, Albany, NY		
8:40 - 9:40	Setting Effective Burn Objectives Panel Tom Fielden, Allegheny Zone FMO, NPS Dan Laber USFWS Midwest Region North Zone FMO Persephone Whelan USFS Branch Chief, Operations Risk Management (Acting) USDA Forest Service Steve Woods, Conservation Stewardship Director Huron Pines Matt Zine, Habitat Management Specialist WDNR		
9:40- 10:00	NETWORKING BREAK with Sponsors and Exhibitors - Foyer Area		
10:00-11:00	Public Concerns and Perspectives - increasing the focus on Rx fire contingency planning Panel Steve Goldman, Deputy Director, Fire and Aviation, USFS, Eastern Region Ludie Bond, Wildfire Mitigation Specialist/Public Information Officer, Waccasassa Forestry Center; Florida Forest Service Persephone Whelan, Branch Chief, Operations Risk Management (Acting), USDA Forest Service		
11:00-11:30	State CPBM Programs Jonathan Stober, Wildlife Biologist, USDA/US Forest Service, Talladega National Forest, Shoal Creek Ranger District Mark Melvin, retired, The Jones Center Todd Breninger, Program Specialist, Bureau of Forestry, Forest Fire Protection, Pennsylvania DCNR		
11:30 - 12:15	National Policy Challenges and Opportunities Panel Jim Karels, Fire Director and Wildland Fire Committee, National Association of State Foresters Steve Miller, Regional Director, Fire and Aviation, USDA Forest Service Region 9 (Eastern Region) Dave Celino, Chief Fire Warden, Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation		
12:15 - 1:15	LUNCH - on your own		
1:15 - 1:45	Emerging Themes from the Wildland Fire Mitigation and Management Commission as it pertains to place-based collaborative Kelly Martin, (ret) Chief of Fire and Aviation, Yosemite National Park, National Park Service, Pacific West Region, Yosemite CA, Wildland Fire Mitigation and Management Commission Member		

1:45 - 2:30	<p>Engaging the Public in Prescribed Fire Ludie Bond, Wildfire Mitigation Specialist/Public Information Officer, Waccasassa Forestry Center; Florida Forest Service</p>
2:30- 2:45	<p>NETWORKING BREAK with Sponsors and Exhibitors - Foyer Area</p>
2:45 - 3:45	<p>Pooling Human Resources to Get Fire Done Panel. Fire Departments, Volunteers, Alternative Spring Breakers and More! Dave Celino, Chief Fire Warden, Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation Ryan Gauger, Fire and Stewardship Manager, The Nature Conservancy Kristin Pink, Forest Preserves of Cook County</p>
3:45 - 4:45	<p>Training the Next Generation Panel Zach Prusak, Wildland Fire Training Specialist, Tall Timbers Research Station Todd Aschenbach, Professor, Grand Valley State University Michael Tiller, Professor, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Jarod Reibel, Conservation Stewardship Land Manager at the Edward Lowe Foundation</p>
4:45 - 5:00	<p>Final Word and Report Out</p>