

Lake States Fire Science Consortium

lakestatesfiresci.net

A JFSP KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE CONSORTIUM



Read it onscreen for active weblinks

volume 2 issue 1

OUR MISSION

Accelerate the awareness, understanding, and adoption of wildland fire science information by federal, tribal, state, local, and private stakeholders in Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin.

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FIRE IN THE LAKE STATES AROUND THE CALENDAR

NEWS, EVENTS, AND ACTIVITIES

November and December were busy months for the consortium, with visits to the University of Michigan, University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point, University of Minnesota's Cloquet Forestry Center and Northern Michigan University.

In Ann Arbor, Nick Reo, Steve Yaffee, Bob Grese and the School of Natural Resources and Environment will "attempt to integrate the restoration of tribal traditional knowledge about fire management with the restoration of historic fire regimes." Read more about it in the Fall 2010 issue of the SNRE [Stewards Magazine](#).

In Stevens Point, everyone from Natural Resources Dean Thomas to the "Fire Crew" demonstrated their interest in and focus on fire as a part of their education experience.

The Cloquet Forestry Center has a vigorous ongoing series of workshops, seminars, and conferences including a Jack Pine symposium planned for this month.

Northern Michigan University has a budding fire program that highlights a weeklong trip to Florida to burn with the State Parks over spring break.

The MNICS meeting at Duluth demonstrated interagency spirit and a professional attention to managing fire on the landscape in Minnesota.



WHAT YOUR CONSORTIUM HAS PLANNED

Canadian Forest Fire Danger Rating System (CFFDDRS) and Fireline Assessment Method (FLAME): In partnership with the Huron-Manistee National Forest and the MI Department of Natural Resource, we'll be conducting a workshop introducing firefighters to these two important fire assessment tools. Students will be trained in both techniques with several lake states examples included as exercises. 30 students are registered, many of which recently completed the online S290.

Wildland Fire Decision Support System (WFDSS) Fire Behavior Tools Refresher: In partnership with the Minnesota Incident Command System (MNICS) and the Wildland Fire Decision Support Center, we'll be gathering trained fire behavior analysts to explore the advanced fire modeling tools in WFDSS and exercising skills in modeling expected fire growth and behavior to support risk assessment and decision making. **Contact Robert Ziel (ziel.4@osu.edu) if you have similar interests.**

UPCOMING WEBINAR: ECOLOGICAL FORESTRY

Wildland managers consider natural patterns of structure, composition, and function as they make decisions about practice and protection on those lands. Relating treatments to natural disturbances, like fire, requires an understanding of the frequency and variability in their occurrence.

If you plan to join the webinar about Ecological Forestry and Red Pine Restoration on Jan 28th, consider taking a few minutes to review a couple of references. One, "Natural Disturbance and Stand Development Principles for Ecological Forestry", can be found at http://www.fs.fed.us/nrs/pubs/gtr/gtr_nrs19.pdf. Another source to take a look at is the "Ecological Forestry Resource Center" at http://www.forestguild.org/ecological_forestry.html

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WEBINAR SCHEDULE

**Ecological
Forestry:
Red Pine
Ecosystems**
Jan 28, 2011
10 ET, 9 CT

[\(click to sign up\)](#)

**Influence of
Wildland Fire on
Mercury Cycling
in Watersheds**
Feb 17, 2011
10 ET, 9 CT

[\(click to sign up\)](#)

**Coming in
March**
**Web-Based
Fire Weather
for the
Great Lakes**

**Coming in
April**
**Monitoring
Burn
Severity**

WILDLAND FIRE EDUCATION AT COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Recent visits with the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point, Northern Michigan University, University of Michigan and the Cloquet Forestry Center highlight another opportunity for partnerships between science and practice.

Individuals from land management agencies are leading basic fireline training at institutions across the region. The vigor of these efforts have their roots in the local fireline opportunities and the commitment of the individuals conducting the training.

Could it be more? An article in the Oct/Nov 2009 issue of the Journal of Forestry suggests that employers would be better served and graduates would be better prepared to deal with the broad set of fire management questions if wildland fire knowledge, skills and abilities were better integrated into their higher education experience.

The National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) provides a complete system of training and qualification for incident management. But their members recognize that those skills only comprise a part of their workforce needs.

Consider the potential of the partnerships between learning institutions and land management organizations. Together they could provide operational training, fire science education, leadership & decision skills, and fireline experience. Separately, neither can fully meet the need.

With planning and creativity, curriculum could be adjusted to encourage students to include training and experience to the squad boss level, education in fire ecology and fuels management, exposure to advanced technologies, and leadership training. Wouldn't you want to hire that person?

NIFTT ONLINE TRAINING

National Interagency Fuels, Fire, Vegetation Technology
<http://frames.nbii.gov/niftt>

Learning Pathways include Fire Behavior, Fire Effects, Fire Regimes, Spatial Analysis, Vegetation Dynamics

Current Online Training

- LANDFIRE Concepts, Data, Methods
- Fire Regime Condition Class (FRCC)
- GIS Tools for Fuels, Fire & Vegetation
- Intro to 40 Fire Behavior Fuel Models
- Using Fire Behavior Nomographs
- Intro to Fuel Characteristic Classification System



JFSP Goals & Vision for JFSP Fire Science Delivery Network

#1: Dissemination of information and building relationships

It is essential that relationships be fostered between scientists, practitioners, and managers. A critical need is for regular, consistent, and timely dissemination of credible information tailored for the regional audience. This objective is central to building visibility, trust, and dialog among stakeholders in a region. The JFSP encourages the following activities:

- Periodic alerts or newsletters
- Publish and disseminate publications to all stakeholders
- Develop, promote, and manage regional communities of practice to support peer-to-peer networking and knowledge exchange
- Develop and manage a regional, web-based NEPA aid that allows fuels and resource planners to quickly access relevant research results

This newsletter and our website demonstrate our efforts to keep you alerted to opportunities and activities around the lake states.

Early discussions indicate that we have at least two areas of science in practice that may be ready to coalesce into regional “**communities of practice**”. Interest in the “**human dimension**” and “**fire effects monitoring**” seems to be widespread throughout the region. Contact Robert Ziel (ziel.4@osu.edu) if you want more information.

USING THE LAKE STATES WEBSITE

Newsletters and emails are important means of staying in touch, but they are temporary.

Plans are to keep the web page updated regularly.

- The **Home Page** will highlight links to upcoming webinars, the most recent newsletters, and other key announcements.
- The **Calendar** will highlight Consortium activities and upcoming events around the country. If you would like to see an event added to the calendar, just contact us. If you'd like
- Look to the **Outreach Page** for links to recorded versions of past webinars and links to past newsletters.

<http://lakestatesfiresci.net>



- Links to our fellow consortia and JFSP materials can be found on the **JFSP page**
- Eventually, we hope to provide links to important references in our **library pages**.
- The **About Page** will be a source of member contact info

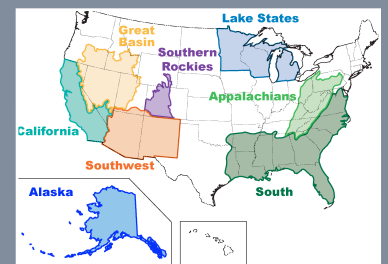
THE JFSP CONNECTION

<http://www.firescience.gov>



CONSORTIA CORNER

http://www.firescience.gov/JFSP_Consortia.cfm



Essential Elements

1. Practitioner involvement
2. Translation of science into usable tools and products
3. Continuous feedback
4. Accountability