



Southern Blue Ridge – Workshop 14 | 2019 May 14-16 | Athens, TN

***“Shortleaf pine and pine oak woodland restoration”***

**14 May TUESDAY**

*Tennessee Wesleyan University: 204 E. College St. Athens, TN 37303*

*Colloms Campus Center (upstairs in the Johnson Event Center)*

8:00-9:00	Registration	
9:00-9:30	Welcome and Introduction to the Southern Blue Ridge Fire Learning Network <i>and</i> National FLN Perspective	Margit Bucher, TNC NC Fire Manager and Marek Smith, Director, TNC North America Fire
9:30-10:00	Welcome to the Cherokee National Forest and the Southern Cherokee Landscape	Trent Girard, USFS Cherokee NF FMO and Wally Akins, TWRA Wildlife Program Manager
10:00-10:20	<i>Break</i>	
	<i>Morning Master of Ceremonies: Beth Buchanan</i>	
10:20-11:00	Historical fire regimes that led to successful hard pine regeneration	Mike Stambaugh, Oak Woodlands & Forests Fire Consortium Chair
11:00-11:30	New Fuel Loading Photo Series	Helen Mohr, CAFMS Director & USFS Forester
11:30-12:00	Comparing the effects of growing season vs. dormant season burns in the southern Appalachians	Don Hagan, Clemson University Assistant Professor of Forest Ecology
12:00-13:00	<i>Lunch and Announcements</i>	
	<i>Afternoon Master of Ceremonies: Julie DeMeester</i>	
13:00-13:30	Water quality post-wildfires	Peter Caldwell, USFS Coweeta Research Hydrologist
13:30-14:00	Implication of vegetation response post-severe wildfires on water. Opportunities for modeling management actions.	Katie Martin, NCSU Assistant Professor of Ecology
14:00-14:30	Discussion	
14:30-14:50	<i>Break</i>	
	<i>*van drivers, please gather next door in board room*</i>	
14:50-15:30	Recent and archival evidence of extreme fire behavior in the Southern Appalachians	Steve Norman, USFS Research Ecologist
15:30-16:15	Geographic variations in the aspect preferences of fire-dependent montane pine stands over Southern Appalachian landscapes	Charles Lafon, Texas A&M University Professor of Geography
16:15-16:45	Discussion	
16:45-17:00	Field trip logistics	Amy McClave, USFS Tellico RD FMO
18:00-21:00	<i>Dinner &amp; Social at Mayfield Dairy/Event Venue: 257 Hwy. 307 E. Athens, TN 37303</i> <i>Continuing to strengthen network connections</i>	



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## 15 May WEDNESDAY

8:00am- Meet at Fairfield Inn & Suites 106 Burkett L. Witt Blvd. Athens, TN 37303 to depart at 8:15am as 4 groups that rotate traveling to field trip stops. We will eat lunch together at Fort Loudoun State Park.

	8:00-9:45	9:45-10:30	10:30-11:15	12:00-1:00	1:00-2:15	2:15-3:00	3:00-3:45	3:45-5:00
Group 1	Travel/Intro	Gravelstand A	Gravelstand B	<i>LUNCH at Fort Loudoun SP</i>	Travel/Intro	Foothills WMA B	Foothills WMA C	Travel
Group 2	Travel/Intro	Gravelstand B	Gravelstand A		Travel/Intro	Foothills WMA B	Foothills WMA C	Travel
Group 3	Travel/Intro	Foothills WMA B	Foothills WMA C		Travel/Intro	Gravelstand A	Gravelstand B	Travel
Group 4	Travel/Intro	Foothills WMA B	Foothills WMA C		Travel/Intro	Gravelstand B	Gravelstand A	Travel

~5:00pm - Arrive back at Fairfield Inn & Suites 106 Burkett L. Witt Blvd. Athens, TN 37303

### Gravelstand on Tellico Ranger District

Shortleaf restoration and habitat using prescribed fire (and wildfire), early growing season burn, partnerships to make it happen:

- Phillip Earhart, Cherokee NF, South Zone Wildlife Biologist
- Hollister Hurt, Cherokee NF, South Zone Prescription Forester
- Mike Keller, Cherokee NF, South Zone Timber Management Assistant

### Fort Loudoun State Park

Interpretive talk about history of Cherokee in this area, and the Fort:

- Eric Hughey, Fort Loudoun SP, Park Ranger

### Foothills Wildlife Management Area

Shortleaf Pine/Oak restoration using combination of fire and mechanical treatments:

- Bill Smith, Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, Lands Manager
- Craig Harper, University of Tennessee, Professor and Wildlife Extension Specialist

\*Hard hats are required for USFS personnel (bring your own) and strongly encouraged for all attendees. Please wear hiking shoes (expect to hike up to 1 mile) and be prepared for rain and inclement weather.

Bring sun screen and bug spray. Bring a water bottle which can be refilled at lunch time.

Dinner: We will announce a suggested meet-up place for later in the evening for those interested. A Cracker Barrel is directly across the parking lot from the Fairfield Inn & Suites.



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**16 May THURSDAY**

*Tennessee Wesleyan University: 204 E. College St. Athens, TN 37303  
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	<i>Morning Master of Ceremonies: Katherine Medlock</i>	
8:00-8:45	Effects of prescribed fire on box turtles	Katie Harris, UTK Graduate Research & Teaching Assistant
8:45-9:30	Importance of growing season burns	Craig Harper, UT Professor and Extension Wildlife Specialist
9:30-9:50	<i>Break</i>	
9:50-11:00	Building capacity panel– what worked? what is needed?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adam Warwick, TNC NC Southern Blue Ridge Stewardship Manager</li> <li>• Mike Davis, Chattahoochee-Oconee NF FMO</li> <li>• Helen Mohr, USFS SRS Forester &amp; CAFMS Director</li> <li>• Chris Minor, TNC KY/TN Fire Manager</li> </ul>
11:00-12:00	FY19 SBR FLN proposal discussion in small groups by topic: Water Science Building the network Communications Indigenous People  Additional topics to be determined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Julie DeMeester, TNC NC Director of Water</li> <li>• Helen Mohr, USFS SRS Forester &amp; CAFMS Director</li> <li>• Kristen Austin, TNC SC Upstate Conservation Director</li> <li>• Debbie Crane, TNC NC Director of Communications</li> <li>• Katie Barnhill-Dilling, Postdoctoral Research Scholar</li> <li>• additional small group leads TBD</li> </ul>
12:00-13:00	<i>Lunch</i>	
	<i>Afternoon Master of Ceremonies: Beth Buchanan</i>	
13:00-13:15	News from Consortium of Appalachian Fire Managers and Scientists	Helen Mohr, CAFMS Director & USFS Forester
13:15-13:45	Shortleaf Pine Initiative update	Mike Black, Shortleaf Pine Initiative Director
13:45-14:15	New approach in community outreach	Katie Barnhill-Dilling, NCSU Postdoctoral Research Scholar
14:15-14:45	Canopy gaps on the George Washington National Forest	Jean Lorber, TNC VA Conservation Scientist
14:45-15:00	Review next steps for SBR FLN	Margit Bucher & Beth Buchanan
15:00	<i>Adjourn</i>	