



**Tuesday, May 23**

**YMCA Blue Ridge Assembly - Washburn Center**

0800-0900 Registration

0900-1000 Welcome and Land Acknowledgement  
National and Local Perspectives

Carmella Stirrat (TNC NC)  
Beth Buchanan (USFS Southern Region)  
Adam Warwick (TNC NC)  
Laurel Kays (FLN National Office)  
Nick Larson (USFS Grandfather Ranger District)  
Juniper Odell (TNC NC)  
Jamie Tyson (USFS Grandfather Ranger District)

1000-1030 **Keynote Address:**  
Reflecting On My 17 Years With the SBRFLN

Dr. Peter Bates (Western Carolina University)

1030-1100 *Networking Break*

1100-1230 **Fire Science**

- Seasonality of Prescribed Fire in the Southern Appalachians, USA
- Effects of Prescribed Fire Seasonality on Forest Structure and Bird Populations in the Southern Appalachians
- Understanding the Winter Hibernation and Foraging Ecology of Eastern Red Bats to Inform Prescribed Fire Management
- Evaluating Prescribed Fire as a Tool for Blight Resistant B3F3 Hybrid American Chestnut Seedling Introduction
- Climate-informed Forestry: A Case Study in the SBRE

Matt Vaughan (Clemson MS graduate; TNC NC)  
Allison Melcher (Clemson MS graduate; Georgia DNR)  
Ashley Epstein (UT Knoxville)  
Felix Stith (Appalachian State University)  
Greg Cooper (TNC NC)

1230-1315 *Lunch in Blue Ridge Center*

1315-1400 **Linking Forests to Water**

- Why Forests Are Important to Baseflow and Where Should We Focus Efforts
- Using Landis Modeling to Quantify Forest Management Effects on Stream Flows

Sara Gottlieb (TNC Southern Appalachians)  
Dr. Katie McQuillan (NCSU)

1400-1415 *Networking Break*

1415-1615 **Communicating Fire**  
-with breakouts

Jen Bunty (CAFMS)  
Cara Chancellor (TNC SC)  
Debbie Crane (TNC NC)  
Abby Weinsenker (Greenville Water)

1615-1630 Field Trip Logistics

Juniper Odell (TNC NC)

1630-1900 *Dinner (on your own)*

1900-2100 *Fireside Chat and Social*  
with NC State Parks

**Whittington Amphitheater**  
Andrew Slack, Jimmy Dodson, Sharon Becker



Southern Blue Ridge – Workshop 17 | 2023 May 23-25 | Black Mountain, NC

*How Our Maturing SBR FLN Is Contributing to Restoration and Resilience*

**Wednesday, May 24**

**YMCA Exact Departure Location TBA**

0800-0830 *Breakfast in Blue Ridge Center*

0845

Depart for field trip. Stops include:

**Warren Wilson College:** Water Quality, Quantity & Collaboration

- Adam Warwick (TNC NC)

**Brown Mountain Overlook:** CFLRP Funding & Burning in the WUI

- Nick Larson (USFS), Greg Philipp (USFS)

**Lake James USFS:** What We Have Learned After 3 Burns in This Burn Unit

- Pete Bates (WCU), Jamie Tyson (USFS), Dean Simon (TNC NC, retired WRC), Ryan Jacobs (WRC)

**Montreat:** Fire-Adapted/Smoke-Adapted Communities

- Wes Sketo (NCFE), Nancy Midgette (Resident Firewise Leader), Jen Gustafson (Wooden Eye Resource Management), & others

*Sack lunch provided. Bring refillable water bottle. Several stops include the opportunity to walk off-trail.*

1700

Arrival to Blue Ridge Assembly

**Thursday, May 25**

**YMCA Blue Ridge Assembly - Washburn Center**

0800-0830 *Breakfast in Blue Ridge Center*

0830-0900

A-ha Moments: One Thing You Have Learned at Workshop 17

Beth Buchanan, Carmella Stirrat

0900-0915

Updates from Consortium of Appalachian Fire Managers & Scientists

Helen Mohr (CAFMS)

0915-0945

Twenty Years of the Fire & Fire Surrogate Study, Green River Game Lands

Dr. Don Hagan (Clemson University)

0945-1000

*Networking Break*

1000-1100

SBR FLN Landscape Expectations  
Accomplishments – Another Year of Firsts

Carmella Stirrat, Beth Buchanan and  
Landscape Leads

1100-1230

Breakout Sessions with Landscapes – Stories to Tell, Places to Go

1230-1315

*Lunch in Blue Ridge Center*

1315-1330

Monitoring Data from the Cherokee National Forest

Lisa Loncar (USFS Cherokee NF)

1330-1400

How Do wildfire and Prescribed Fire Effects Compare?  
A Multi-decade Landscape Assessment

Dr. Steve Norman (USFS SRS)

1400-1430

*Networking Break*

1430-1545

National/Regional Initiatives Roundtable –  
Impacts to Your Work in the Southern Blue Ridge

Gary Wood (Cohesive Strategy)  
Andy Baker (USFS Southern Region)  
Sara Carter (USFS)  
Jessie Howard (USFS)  
Adam Warwick (TNC NC)  
Frank Riley (Chestatee/Chattahoochee RC&D  
Council)  
Tom Dooley (TNC SC)

1545-1600

Wrap Up and Next Steps, Adjourn

Carmella Stirrat, Beth Buchanan