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## Southwest Fire Science Consortium Newsletter

Winter 2012 Newsletter February 2012

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### Quick Links

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- [SW Fire Ecology](#)
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- [Joint Fire Science Program](#)
- [Website](#)

[If you would like to stay up to date on fire science and opportunities within the fire community, please...](#)

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### Upcoming Events

**Consortium Webinars:**  
["LANDFIRE Data Access Tool"](#)

Dear Molly,

If you have ideas for webinars, workshops, field trips, a featured article for our next newsletter, or other activities we should be involved in, please contact us at [swfireconsortium@gmail.com!](mailto:swfireconsortium@gmail.com)

### Featured Note: Southwest Applications of LANDFIRE

In the 10 years since inception, LANDFIRE has delivered a set of fire, fuel and vegetation related spatial data and ecological models that have proved useful for land management applications in the Southwest and elsewhere across the country. To be sure, LANDFIRE's dataset, like any dataset, has its strengths and weaknesses, but there are several factors that set LANDFIRE apart and have made it a good choice for certain projects. Take for example the following projects that are currently using or have used LANDFIRE data in the Southwest:

- Ongoing BLM Rapid Ecoregional Assessments for the [Sonoran Desert](#), [Mojave Basin and Range](#), and [Colorado Plateau](#) rely heavily on LANDFIRE because it covers the entire analysis area and the suite of related data layers and reference condition models are suitable for many of the assessment needs.
- LANDFIRE reference condition models and fire regime condition class data provided a cost-effective and timely approach for developing ecological assessments as part of the [USFS Region 3 Forest Plan Revisions](#).

with Chris Toney and Jeff Jones.  
12pm MST, February 15, 2012.  
Click [here](#) to register.

"LANDFIRE Total Fuels Change Tool" March 21, 2012.  
Registration will open in mid-February.

"First Order Fire Effects Tool" April 18, 2012. Registration will open in late March.

### **Conference:**

#### **Southwest Fire**

#### **Ecology Conference-**

*Fire Landscapes, Wildlife and People: Building Alliances for Restoring Ecosystem Resilience*, AFE, SWFSC, HSU. February 27 - March 1, 2012 in Santa Fe, New Mexico. For information click [here](#).

### **Training Opportunities:**

#### **Arizona Wildfire Academy,**

Prescott, AZ. March 10-16, 2012. Click [here](#) for more info.

#### **Fire/Fuel Modeling**

**Workshops-** Attend classroom modules in one of several southwest locations. Modules include instruction on: FlamMap, FRCC, Landfire, and BehavePlus. **Space is still available at some locations for the last two modules!** Click [here](#) for full information and to [register](#).

**RX310 - Intro to Fire Effects Course at the Southwest Fire Ecology Conference-** February 27-March 1, 2012. Click [here](#) for more [info!](#)

#### **Landscape Conservation Cooperative National**

- The [Signal Peak fuels program planning and prioritization](#) project combined LANDFIRE vegetation and fuels data with local information on fire weather, fire occurrence and ecological condition modeling to develop management strategies and prioritize potential projects across a half-million acre landscape in New Mexico. LANDFIRE data made the assessment possible by providing the only continuous and consistent suite of mapped products (including vegetation, fuel and environmental information) covering the entire analysis area.
- [Upper Mimbres Watershed Landscape Assessment](#) used LANDFIRE data on a large, multi-ownership landscape in New Mexico to calculate fire regime conditions class, to model potential fire behavior and ultimately to help prioritize treatments areas in the assessment area.

These projects each had distinct goals and objectives but they chose LANDFIRE data in part because of the broad-scale, cross boundary nature of their work. Each project used LANDFIRE data in conjunction with local datasets and adjusted LANDFIRE data based on local knowledge for their particular application.

LANDFIRE recognizes the need for local review and adjustment to its products and has just released two [How-to User Guides](#) (we call them HUGs) to help user do just that:

- [Reviewing and Modifying LANDFIRE Vegetation Dynamics Models](#), and
- [Reviewing and Modifying LANDFIRE Spatial Products](#).

The guides are accompanied by short videos and tutorials that provide step-by-step instructions on performing common data modifications. These materials build on existing [LANDFIRE courses](#). Need more help? Contact any member of The Nature Conservancy's [LANDFIRE Team](#) or the LANDFIRE helpdesk ([helpdesk@landfire.gov](mailto:helpdesk@landfire.gov)).

As LANDFIRE moves into year 10 we will be working on additional user support materials to add to our existing repertoire. LANDFIRE can't replace good local data but you may find it useful for filling gaps or supplementing local datasets especially when working across large landscapes. So, stay tuned for new offerings and let us know how we can better support your work.

### **2011 Fire Season Roadshow**

Join us on a field trip to one or more of the 2011 Fire

**Workshop**- March 27-28, 2012 in Denver, CO.

*Click here for more [info!](#)*

**Southwest Wildfire Hydrology and Hazards Workshop**, April 2-5, 2012 at the Biosphere 2 outside Tucson, AZ. *Click here for more [info!](#)*

### **Free Presentations:**

"The past and future of wildland fuel science: a new beginning"

-Dr. Bob Keane. February 8, 2012, Rm. 017, SW Forest Sciences Complex, Northern Arizona University, **Flagstaff, AZ**. *Click here for more [info!](#)*

Season's most interesting fires. The Roadshow kickoff will be at the SW Fire Ecology Conference in Santa Fe, where we'll tour parts of Las Conchas Fire and other locations in the Jemez Mountains.



Here's a list of some potential roadshow field trips:

- Wallow Fire
- White and/or Donaldson Fire(s)
- Monument Fire
- Track Fire

If you have further ideas for field trips, please contact us at [swfireconsortium@gmail.com](mailto:swfireconsortium@gmail.com). We want your input!

## **Share Your Implemented Burn Plans**

We will continue to collect implemented burn plans until further notice! In partnership with FRAMES, we will maintain an online archive of geospatially linked burn plans from around the Southwest.

Please send electronic copies of implemented burn plans to: [swfireconsortium@gmail.com](mailto:swfireconsortium@gmail.com). If your burn plan only exists on paper, send to: Barb Satink Wolfson, NAU School of Forestry, Box 15018, Flagstaff, AZ 86011. Also include a summary paragraph of the lessons learned from that particular burn.

By sharing successful or not-so-successful prescribed burns, managers can learn from each other and we can archive on-the-ground experience. Burn plans will be searchable and tied to spatial attributes.

## **Recent Research & Informative Links**

- January was Fire Behavior month for JFSP! See

To add an event to our newsletter or website, please [contact us](#).

[swfireconsortium@gmail.com](mailto:swfireconsortium@gmail.com)

For quick fire science updates:



**[Barb Satink Wolfson](#)**  
Southwest Fire Science  
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the most recent publication, "[Synthesis of Knowledge of Extreme Fire Behavior: Volume I for Fire Managers](#)" \*This is a large file and will take some time to download.

- JFSP [Fuel Treatment Guides](#)
- 2011 Fire Season RAVG [Reports](#) - they're searchable!
- FRAMES [Top Ten Management Searches](#)
- **Be sure to check out the new and improved [JFSP website](#) - more info and easier to use!**

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