

Southern Fire Exchange Update

Accessible Fire Science for Resource and Fire Managers

September 2013 | SFE Program Update | Central Florida PFC Meeting
David Godwin, Ph.D.
Program and Outreach Coordinator






Regional Lead Organizations and Team






NC STATE UNIVERSITY

<p>Leadership: Leda Kobzar, Ph.D. (UF) (Project PI) Alan Long, Ph.D. (UF Emeritus) (Director) Joe Roise, Ph.D. (NC State) Kevin Robertson, Ph.D. (Tall Timbers) Annie Hermansen-Baez (USFS InterfaceSouth)</p>	<p>Staff: David Godwin, Ph.D. (UF) (Outreach Coordinator) Annie Oxarart, MS (UF) (Tech Transfer Specialist) Chet Buell (NC State) (IT Specialist) John Diaz (NC State) (Social Media) Carol Armstrong (Tall Timbers) (Librarian Specialist) Justin Shedd (NC State) (GIS Specialist)</p>
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“Increase the availability and application of fire science information for natural resource management and to serve as a conduit for fire managers to share new research needs with the research community.”

-Southern Fire Exchange Mission





Accessible Fire Science for Resource and Fire Managers

- SFE is one of 14 JFSP regional consortia of fire managers and science providers
- Started 2010
- SFE refunded for 2013 - 2015
- Goal: enhance fire science delivery and adoption

Programing Based on:

- Needs assessment survey (2009, 976 fire managers in SE)
- Biennial email survey of managers / researchers
- Advisory Board (fire managers / researchers)
- Steering Committee (leading regional fire managers)
- Annual feedback from Southern Group of State Foresters
- JFSP Guidance
- Recommendations from all end-users





SFE Program Update



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New SFE Spotlight Series

- Newsletters, Fact Sheets, Webinars, 10 Min Interviews, Research Summaries, Discussion Forums all tied to a common fire science topic

Past & Upcoming Spotlights:

- Jul – Aug '13: Fire and Wildlife
- Sept – Oct '13: Prescribed Fire Techniques
- Nov – Dec '13: Smoke and Fog
- Jan – Feb '14: GIS / Mapping
- Mar – Apr '14: Fuel Treatments



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Online Southern Fire Science Resource Center

www.SouthernFireExchange.org

- Current highlights, news / events in Southern fire
- State level info on rxfire / PFCs / permits
- Tools for rxfire planning (weather / models / plans)
- All SFE science briefs and products
- Events calendar (training, webinars, meetings)
- Discussion Board / Forum
- Links to many other fire information resources



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Recent SFE Affiliated Field Workshops

- **Longleaf Pine Ecosystem Restoration** (Sept. 12)
 - TNC Fall Line Project Area, Georgia
 - Longleaf restoration and prescribed fire management
- **Sandhill and Scrub Restoration with Fire** (Sept. 19)
 - TNC Tiger Creek Preserve, Central Florida
 - Tied to Central Fla PFC Meeting




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Upcoming SFE Affiliated Field Workshops

- **Longleaf Pine Forest Management** (Oct 30th)
 - Joseph W. Jones Center at Ichauway, Georgia
- **Sand Pine to Sand Hill in the Urban Interface** (Oct 29th)
 - CFEOR / SJRWMD Julington Durban Preserve, Jacksonville
- **Upland Ecosystem Restoration Project** (TBD)
 - Tall Timbers, Apalachicola National Forest, Tallahassee





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SFE Fire Science Fact Sheets and Research Summaries
15 Different 1-3 page fact sheets

- "Management Implications of Fire Ecology special issue on fire in wetlands"
 - South FL plant community succession models (Duever et al.)
 - Everglades wading bird responses to rx fire (Venne & Frederick)
 - Cane responses to rx fire / windthrow (Gagnon et al.)
- "Wildfire Ignition Sources in the South" (Prestemon et al.)
 - Ignitions from arson, railroads, cigarettes have decreased in recent decades
 - Documentation of community prevention strategies needed to determine effectiveness
 - Some evidence shows benefits from PSAs, outreach, brochures



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Coming Soon...

Dale Wade Prescribed Fire Methods Fact Sheet Series

- Prescribed Fire Ignition Devices
- Fuel Moisture
- Fire Intensity and Severity
- Backfires



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SFE "10 Min Interviews"

- Rxfire and Management Experts:

Steve "Torch" Miller
Chief of Land Management
St. Johns River Water Management District

Mike Carloss
Biologist and Director
Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

Justin Ellenberger
Wildlife Biologist and WMA Manager
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Coming Soon..
Mark Melvin, Jones Center



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"Fire Lines" - Bi-Monthly Digital Newsletter

- Southern Fire Science News
- Research Briefs
- Lessons Learned Reports
- Partner Introductions
- Management Discussions
- Training Dates
- Meeting Dates

Are you getting Fire Lines?



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Webinars (w/ Scientists, Researchers, and Experts)

- Many count towards SAF CFE credit
- Topics Include:
 - Prescribed fire & the public: myths and realities
 - Fire and wildlife in southern ecosystems
- Past and future webinars now archived on YouTube!
 - <http://www.youtube.com/user/SouthernFireExch>



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Fall 2013 Prescribed Fire Webinar Series:


- Oct 9 - burning on private land with consultants
- Oct 17 - PFTC opportunities
- Oct 23 - burning techniques & lessons learned
- Oct 31 - techniques for burning in OK, TX, AR
- Nov 6 - planning large scale burns

 **Webinar Portal** 
for Forestry and Natural Resources
www.forestrywebinar.net

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Webinar Research Highlights

- From webinar by Dr. Chris Moorman, NC State
- Investigated growing season prescribed fire impacts on wild turkey nests
- Fort Bragg, North Carolina

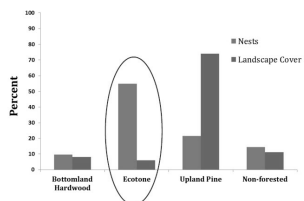




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Research Highlights

- Most nests were located in hardwood drains and fire maintained ecotones near lowlands

Nest-site Selection (n=42)



Habitat	Nests (%)	Landscape Cover (%)
Bottomland Hardwood	~10	~10
Ecotone	~65	~10
Upland Pine	~25	~75
Non-forested	~15	~15



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Webinar Research Highlights Continued

- 1 out of 30 nests destroyed by fire over 2 years
- Growing season fires have little impact on nest survival
- Season of burning influences important cover in uplands and lowlands / ecotones

Fire Exposure (~6% of nests per year)

Nest Survival (n=30)

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Webinar Research Highlights

- From webinar by Dr. Chris Moorman
- Investigated rxfire fire season / freq. on white-tailed deer food availability
- Fort Bragg, North Carolina

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Deer Forage Available

- Dormant season fires important for deer forage / cover and a wider variety of soft mast
- Fire return intervals longer than 2 yrs needed to maintain soft mast production
- Retaining oaks / hardwoods within upland matrix beneficial for deer habitat

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Coming Soon...

- Interactive Google Map of Southern Fire Science
- State Specific Resources for Prescribed Fire Certifications

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We want your input:

- Recommendations for possible research/ field demo sites?
- Research topics for which you would like to see more research? (be specific)

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Connect with us!

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Questions?

Thank you!

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