



Training Announcement

Loup River Prescribed Fire Training Exchange Central Nebraska March 16-March 29, 2025

Objectives: Conduct a series of prescribed fires in central Nebraska grasslands, provide experiential learning and opportunities for participants to work in trainee & qualified positions, and learn about local fire ecology and fire management from scientists and managers. By conducting a series of controlled burns on private property, participants will practice technical firefighting skills like ignitions, holding, briefings, monitoring, engine operations and more.

Target Group: This training is designed to integrate a diverse group of fire practitioners, including university students, municipal, state, federal and contract firefighters, landowners and other natural resource managers, scientists and researchers.

Registration: A \$250 registration per participant should be made to Pheasants Forever online at www.nebrakapf.com. The registration fee will cover meals and lodging for the duration of your stay at the Loup TREX.

Description: The Loup TREX is organized as a federal incident, and using the Incident Command System; participants will serve in qualified and trainee firefighting positions on a prescribed fire team. Participants will assist with preparation, scouting, igniting, holding, mop-up and patrol on the designated fire complex. We will also complete pre- and post-fire monitoring, train with equipment and practice fireline leadership skills.

Requirements:

1. All participants must be current and qualified or have completed NWCG courses I-100, S-130, S-190 and FEMA IS-700. These courses can be offered in advance to participants who need them.
2. Participants must complete an arduous pack test before arrival in Nebraska. Use of the moderate pack test is acceptable if coming as a TNC volunteer and serving in a RXCM position.
3. Participants must have insurance (e.g., workers' comp, health or travel insurance) to cover any injury they receive during event.
4. Participants must bring fireline-approved boots (all-leather workboots, 8 inches tall, with non-slip soles and no steel toe). Participants should come with all appropriate Personal Protective Equipment including: next generation fire shelter, hard hat, Nomex clothing, all leather gloves, eye protection and canteens for drinking water. If you do not have all the PPE please let us know; for an additional \$75 we can provide you with a set that includes: next generation fire shelter, fire pack, hard hat, Bendix King radio, radio charger.

Meals & lodging: Meals and lodging will be organized and provided by host agency Pheasants Forever. Lodging will be assigned at double occupancy. If you have additional lodging needs or preferences, contact Ben Wheeler.

Arrival and departure: Participants should arrive in Ord, NE on Sunday, March 16, 2025 unless otherwise arranged. Although we encourage you to stay for the full assignment, we understand your time constraints and are happy to host you for the dates you are available (*6 day minimum*).

Registration Deadline: Complete the registration form and submit to Ben Wheeler (Ben.Wheeler@nebraska.gov) by Friday, February 14, 2025.



This training is hosted by the Fire Learning Network, Pheasants Forever and The Nature Conservancy Nebraska Chapter.

The Fire Learning Network is supported by *Promoting Ecosystem Resilience and Fire Adapted Communities Together*, a cooperative agreement between The Nature Conservancy, USDA Forest Service and agencies of the Department of the Interior.

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