

CAFMS Newsletter

Consortium of Appalachian Fire Managers and Scientists

A JFSP KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE CONSORTIUM



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Volume 1 Issue 3

Priority fire research needs – Your input counts:

When the Joint Fire Science Program (JFSP) established the Consortium of Appalachian Fire Managers and Scientists, they promised to consider our input when making decisions for research topics they would fund. They have proven to be true to their words in their most recent Request for Applications (www.firescience.gov). This year, they will be funding research in two of the three areas that our members identified as most important for the Appalachian Region. These include (1) re-measurement of vegetation, fuels, and soils in long-term studies of prescribed fire to reach desired vegetation conditions and (2) several smoke management questions. Although these topics are not limited to the Appalachian Region, they do directly address topics that we identified as important.



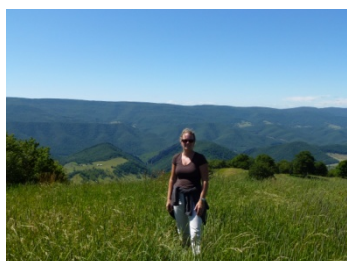
In January 2011, we polled our members and everyone on our mailing lists for ideas. Many ideas were submitted and the CAFMS User's Board worked diligently to identify the top three. Each topic was described in detail to the Joint Fire Science Program in a document that can be seen on our web site (cafms.org). The next step is to write proposals. Scientists from across the country will design research studies to fit these topics and describe them in a short proposal. A review panel will judge each proposal and make recommendations for funding to the JFSP Governing Board.

Input continued:

It was a great opportunity to provide this input to the JFSP Governing Board and we received positive feedback from them. This type of communication is a major function of each of the eight JFSP Knowledge Exchange Consortia, like CAFMS. It provides a direct link from managers on the ground to administrators who make decisions about budgets and how research dollars are allocated. As we have just seen, when you talk, JFSP listens. So your ideas are very important. Please give us your input about research needs, even if the topic is small. It can be as little as a few words or as much as a complete justification for the research. To provide input, join our discussion forum at CAFMS.org or email us at helen@cafms.org or tom@cafms.org.

A Successful Smoke Workshop

On August 24th we held a smoke workshop in Charlottesville, VA. We had a great group of people mostly from the surrounding area due to budget constraints. Keep your eyes open for another one in the spring. It will be located towards the southern end of the Appalachians! We have added a page to the website titled smoke tools. Look for the tab in the orange stripe below the heading. Many thanks to those who attended and to Scott Goodrick for presenting it.



CAFMS travels the Appalachians:

CAFMS has had a busy summer of traveling along the Appalachians! We have met new friends and visited with many old friends at various meetings throughout the region. We would love to meet with your group! If you are interested in hearing more about CAFMS at your meeting please contact us!

Tweet With Us!



Find us on twitter now @APfirescience.

Join CAFMS:

The consortium is for all land managers and researchers in the region who deal with any aspect of fire. To join, simply provide us with some contact information at the web site listed below.

<https://spreadsheets.google.com/viewform?formkey=dDNiUnFrYzNNVU00dkxka1hKM2p0cFE6MQ>

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