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April 2023

Brought to you by Hawai'i Wildfire Management Organization and University of Hawai'i Cooperative Extension, CTAHR, Fire & Ecosystems Program. Partner submissions encouraged!

Pacific Fire Exchange (PFX) Highlights



Joint Webinar:



Changing Climate and Wildfire in Hawai'i



Photo credit: Pacific Fire Exchange

The climate in Hawai'i is changing. How will this affect the risk of wildfire, along with potential impacts to people and Hawai'i's unique ecosystems? Please join us to learn more!



Mike Walker
Fire Protection Forester, DLNR
Division of Forestry and Wildlife



Dr. Clay Trauernicht
Extension Specialist, NREM
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa



Emma Yuen
Native Ecosystems Program Manager,
DLNR, Division of Forestry and Wildlife

The climate in Hawai'i is changing. **How will this affect the risk of wildfire, along with potential impacts to people and Hawai'i's unique ecosystems?**

The following **amazing** line-up of speakers helped answer that question: Michael Walker (Fire Protection Forester with the Hawai'i DLNR Division of Forestry & Wildlife), Dr. Clay Trauernicht (Extension Specialist with NREM, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa), and Emma Yuen (Native Ecosystems Program Manager with DLNR, Division of Forestry and Wildlife). **Check out our latest webinar, co-hosted by PFX and the Pacific Regional Invasive Species and Climate Change program [HERE](#).**

Partnerships in Action

Super exciting news for four Hawai'i Island communities and Kaua'i County which will receive more than \$400,000 from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Forest Service, Community Wildfire Defense Grant Program. The grants will cover the costs of updating Community Wildfire Protection Plans for the following communities: **Northwest Hawai'i** (\$84,700), **South Kona** (\$84,700), **Ka'u** (\$84,700), **Oceanview** CWPP Update – (\$84,700), and **Kaua'i County** (\$78,000). DOFAW will work hand-in-hand with HWMO to conduct hazard assessments and help these communities identify risks and ways to reduce them. For more information check out the links below:

- [Hawai'i Receives Wildfire Impact Grants from USDA Forest Service](#) (DLNR News Release)
- [Hawaii communities receive wildfire impact grants from USDA Forest Service](#) (KITV news)
- [USDA Forest Service awards grants to 4 Big Island communities for mitigating wildfires](#) (Big Island Now)

Hometown Heroes



Hawai'i Wildfire Management Organization partnered with area Firewise® USA communities (Waikōloa Village, Pu'ukapu Pastoral, and Pu'uanahulu) and the Department of Forestry & Wildlife to share wildfire preparedness information and keiki activity books to those attending the Experience PTA Day on April 20th. The annual open house is intended to showcase the US Army Garrison Pōhakuloa Training Area mission, community partnerships and STEM activities for school-aged youth. Kaleo Pūeo (HWMO) and Smokey Bear (DOFAW + US Forest Service) made special appearances too. Mahalo to HWMO's Community Wildfire Ambassadors and area Firewise resident leaders for championing the wildfire message on behalf of us all!

Tools

[Interagency Fuel Treatment Decision Support System \(IFTDSS\)](#): a web-based application designed to make fuel treatment planning and analysis more efficient and effective. **IFTDSS hosts a complete set of reference data available for the entire US** including LANDFIRE fuels information, SILVIS Wildland Urban Interface, Agency Ownership, as well as a modern map

From Our Partners

Our partners need your help! The **Western Prescribed Fire Training Needs Survey** which includes Hawai'i is a **multi-agency effort** which includes The Nature Conservancy and National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy. **What are the training barriers to doing prescribed burning?** Fill out the survey [HERE](#) so we can get the courses we need!

Fire Adapted Communities

Tips for Creating Consistent Messaging About Fire: some great content in here about who you are targeting and how you craft your content to reach audiences with tailored messaging. Read more [HERE](#).

Meetings, Conferences, Courses

Portugal

- Online Prescribed Fire Course for Natural Resource Outreach Professionals (Free). NC State Extension, University of Florida, Southern Fire Exchange, Clemson University Cooperative Extension, and the USDA developed an online self-paced course covering the basics of wildfire and prescribed fire. Additional courses are being offered in May. Read more [HERE](#).
- [Workshop on Wildland/Prescribed Fire Extension and Outreach](#) (Free), June 7 - 9, 2023, Raleigh, NC. Registration Deadline: May 26.
- [Society for Ecological Restoration World Conference](#) - Sept 26 - Sept 30, 2023 in Darwin, Australia. Register by May 15 (for early bird rates) [HERE](#)
- [National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy Workshop](#), Nov 6 - 10, Santa Fe, NM.
- Save the Date! [After the Flames Conference](#) (Coalitions and Collaboratives) - April 15 - 17, 2024 in Rockies, Estes Park, CO.

National News & Policy

- J. Bradley Washa: [All things are connected with fire: Prescribed fires are less dangerous than wildfires](#) (Salt Lake Tribune, March 10, 2023)
- [Increasingly Large and Intense Wildfires Hinder Western Forests' Ability to Regenerate](#) (Inside Climate News, March 6, 2023)

Weather Channel, March 24, 2023)

- [President's 2024 Budget Advances Efforts to Address the Nation's Wildfire Crisis through Workforce Reform and Other Investments in Wildland Fire Management Programs](#) (USDA Press Release, March 9, 2023)

National and International Research and Reports

- Wondering what's going on with federal legislation re: wildfire? Here's a handy-dandy 2023 Wildfire Legislation Tracker [HERE](#).
- [Biological invasions as costly as natural disasters](#) (Perspectives in Ecology and Conservation, 29 March 2023)
- [Fire exclusion vs. fire suppression explained](#) by Fire Adapted New Mexico
- [Roadmap for Wildfire Resilience: Solutions for a Paradigm Shift](#) (Aspen Institute, March 2023)
- [California's strategic plan for expanding the use of beneficial fire](#) (CA Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force, March 2022)
- [Proposing a Governance Model for Environmental Crises](#) (Karasmanaki et al., Land)
- [Fuel treatment effectiveness at the landscape scale: a systematic review of simulation studies comparing treatment scenarios in North America](#) (Ott

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- [Wildfire Smoke: Opportunities to Strengthen Federal Efforts to Manage Growing Risks](#) (US Government Accountability Office)
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National Multimedia: Webinars, Interviews, and Learning through Stories

- SCIENCEx Fire webinar week was held Feb 27 - Mar 3. Scientists from across the Forest Service's Research and Development deputy area presented the latest wildfire knowledge to a broad audience of land managers, foresters, scientists, students, and others. Check them out below:
 - [Fire History and Ecology](#)
 - [Fire Weather and Smoke](#)
 - [Fire Behavior](#)
 - [Modeling Risk and Trade-offs](#)
 - [Looking Toward the Future](#)
 - Life with Fire Podcast - [EP. 46 Making your own spark, with Amanda Rau](#)
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Brown Treesnake Program Coordinator (Pacific Islands Fish and Wildlife Office). **The deadline to apply is May 2, 2023.** Apply [HERE](#).

Funding Opportunities

The **Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) Assistance Program**, managed by the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC), is accepting applications from fire departments and partnering agencies in high-risk communities. **Six departments at high risk of wildfire will be selected (and funded at \$6,000 ea)** to receive assistance from IAFC subject matter experts (SMEs) with updating or developing their CWPPs and engagement efforts. **Applications due April 30, 2023.** Contact Derek Bullington at Derek.Bullington@iafc.org or (703) 537-4832.

Share Your News

This newsletter is a great way to keep our wildfire community connected!

If you have a news item, photo, or accomplishment to share with our community of wildfire professionals, please email it to wildfirecommunications@hawaiiwildfire.org.

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