

Columbia Gorge Prescribed Fire Training Exchange Burn Unit Host Expectations and Responsibilities

[Columbia Gorge TREX webpage](#)

What is a TREX? Prescribed Fire Training Exchanges (TREXs) are events that provide experiential prescribed fire training to build capacity for fire management while implementing treatments that support local community and landscape objectives. TREX is a unique cooperative burning model that brings together a variety of entities, including federal and state agencies, private landowners and contractors, tribes, academics, and international partners—while incorporating local values and issues to build the right kinds of capacity in the right places.



How can CGTREX support your program?

- Our 2-week Columbia Gorge TREX is planned for May 11-22, 2026. During that period, we work with partners like you to implement burns on private, state, federal, and/or Tribal lands.
- CGTREX will provide staffing capacity at no cost to your program, including equipment and personnel in qualified and trainee positions (RXB2, FIRB, FEMO, FFT1, and ENGB, among other NWCG-certified positions). For many burns, CGTREX may provide all operational positions and equipment required of a Type 2 Burn organization. CGTREX participants will meet the minimum qualification requirements for your organization.
- CGTREX can assist with monitoring to determine first order fire effects related to objectives, and can provide reports if requested.

Expectations and responsibilities for burn unit hosts:

- We expect that you complete all burn planning, permitting, and unit prep prior to burn day. If you need assistance with any of these tasks, we can help, but please communicate early so we have time to support you and ensure operational safety and efficiency.
- CGTREX leadership will need to orient and scout the unit to build situational awareness and a common operational picture. CGTREX can assist with minor burn unit prep needs before the burn day including handline construction, hazard tree mitigation and installing water handling equipment. CGTREX has a small cache of equipment that may be loaned out.
- CGTREX is a training event; we ask for participants to be prioritized for trainee positions to the extent possible within your organization.
- We may have media present. Our Public Information Officer will reach out to discuss who will be attending and what any collected content will be used for. Please share concerns or limitations regarding media use prior to the day of the burn.
- To support our CGTREX participants' learning, we may request that you lead discussions about your organization and site's fire history, resource management, strategic planning, and ecological health. Post-burn field visits are valuable as well.

Questions? Please contact TREX Coordinator Emery Cowan at emery@mtadamsstewards.org