

Torchbearr

- *Promoting Prescribed Fire For A Brighter Fire Future For All*
- A Presentation by
Scot Steinbring and Erica Terence,
Torchbearr Co-founders
- No, the double r is not a typo

Learn from the past, Train the present , or Fail the future.

www.torchbearr.org



What We Do

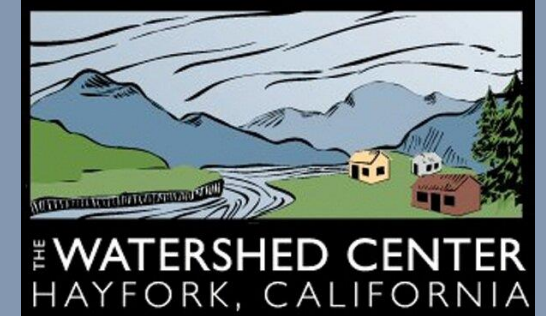
- T- Training
- O-Opportunity
- R- Resources
- C- Community
- H-Help
- B-Burn
- E-Education
- A-Action
- R-Reintroduction
- R-Resilience



Torchbearr



Partners



Our History

Torchbearr was founded and incorporated in the state of California in 2021. The organization began when firefighter Scot Steinbring and career conservation non-profit worker Erica Terence brought their 48-plus years of combined experience and skills to bear on fire practice and non-profit management by forming this change agent.

Scot has been working in fire since he was 18, when someone asked if he wanted a job on a fire truck and he's stayed on that path for 32 years, always observing and often learning by doing every possible job in incident management and fire management. Erica has performed vital roles throughout non-profits ranging from volunteer to leader for the past 17 years.



It is not only their experience, skills and qualifications that make these two individuals the right ones to form, lead and grow Torchbearr. Their integrity, tenacity, and outspoken nature make them the right people for this desperately needed job that no one else is doing.



Our Mission and Purpose

In brief, the purpose of Torchbearr is to promote prescribed burning.

Our longer view mission is to work for a brighter fire future for all.

Torchbearr builds capacity for, implements, and advocates a smarter, safer, and more economical fire future, by creating a mobile prescribed training venue and workforce. Torchbearr works with partners and landowners to do more beneficial prescribed burning at every scale.

A key part of our prescribed fire movement is to create cultural change that supports increased prescribed burning as a strategy to decrease the need to suppress or fight fires. We use tactics including classroom education, hands-on training and burning, coordinated coalition building, and educational events like Fire Fridays to accomplish our mission.

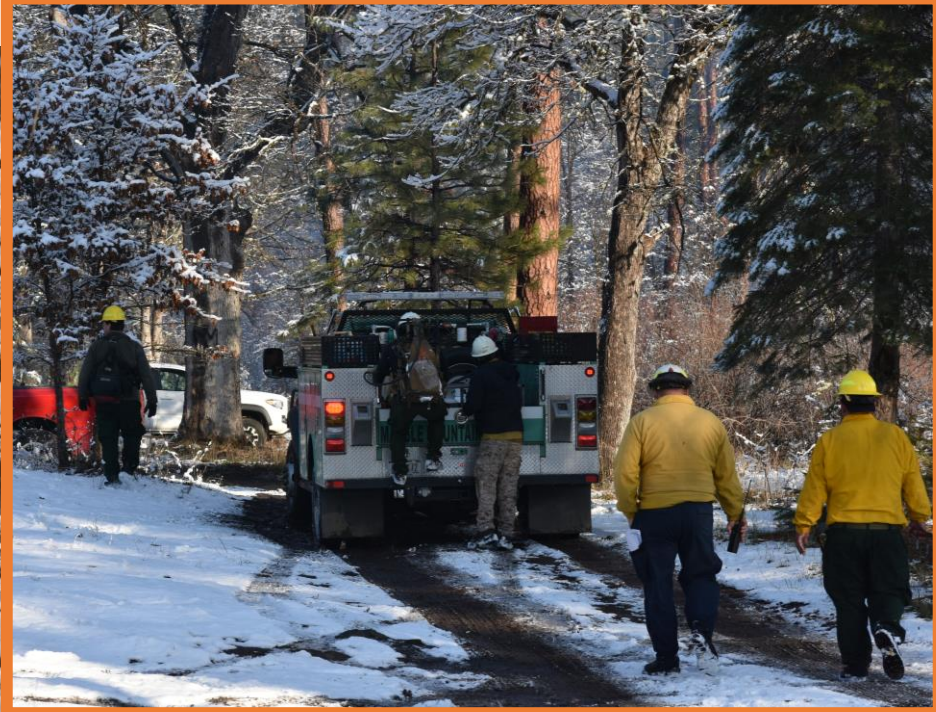


Our goal is to make training and burning more accessible and affordable by providing opportunities to those in need and building a mobile prescribed burn workforce

With access to the right resources, people can become empowered by their own abilities and gain the confidence to protect their homes and communities.

Learn more about our work by getting in touch with our team

torchbearr@gmail.com - General email
planning@torchbearr.org - Erica's email
operations@torchbearr.org - Scot's email



"I believe we can get there, but we know we can't do it without you and we have a lot of work to do together to make this vision a reality. Join us."

- Torchbearr Co-Founder Erica Terence

Our Vision

We envision a time when Smokey Bear and Torchbearr stand shoulder to shoulder at a press conference describing the benefits of the large-scale prescribed burn they're about to do together.



Training The Present

Torchbarr Operations Director Scot Steinbring has announced a 2022 training schedule which can be found on Torchbarr's website: www.torchbarr.org

If we're going to undo the damage one hundred years of fire suppression has done, we'll need accessible training and students of fire from many backgrounds – not just fire agencies - stepping up and leveling up.

Whether you need basic fire school, a fire safety refresher, a work capacity test, or a more specialized session in operating equipment like pumps, hoses and fire engines, here's a chance to develop your fire awareness and skills and get involved in the movement to bring prescribed fire back to our land.

While Torchbarr is in the final stages of forming its organization, with 501 (c)3 tax exempt recognition from the IRS pending, the group is launching some early initiatives with the Siskiyou Prescribed Burn Association, Scott River Watershed Council, Watershed Research and Training Center, and the Quartz Valley Indian Reservation, including:

- Training
- Burning
- Development of a Prescribed Fire Qualification Clearinghouse
- Public Outreach and Education about Prescribed Fire
- Building relationships and a coalition of prescribed burn practitioners and supporters

We believe in this work so much, we're doing it for free until we're fully funded!



Creating a Mobile Training Center & Workforce



Torchbearr Training 2022



Torchbearr invites everyone, including interested members of the public, non-profit organizations, and government agencies or representatives to participate in training as part of Torchbearr Capacity project, "Collaborative Burning in Northern California." This project is intended to support collaborative planning that can enable public and partners throughout the Northern California region to work together in utilizing prescribed fire as a tool for achieving long term ecosystem and community health.

August:

Aug 8th-12th S-130,S-190,L180 Basic Fire School (Field Day Required)

September:

Sept 5th-6th S-131 Firefighter Type I

October:

Oct 11th-13 S-230 Crew Boss

Oct 17th-18th S-231 Engine Boss

November:

Nov 8th-9th S-200 Initial Attack Incident Commander

December:

Dec 13-14 S-219 Firing Operations

REGISTER TODAY: <https://forms.gle/a6skkBgZNMvkGpV6>

Contact Torchbearr with any questions:

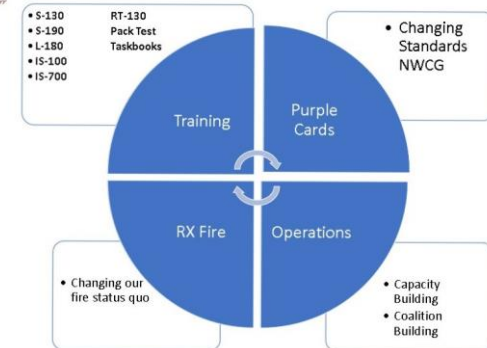
Torchbearr.Org Or Email;

Torchbearr@gmail.com

For a Brighter Fire Future For All



Torchbearr.org
Strategic Action Planning



Torchbearr@Torchbearr.org

www.Torchbearr.org

Torchbearr Qualifications Card

The Incident Qualification System (IQS) is a software program that allows the user to track incident qualifications, experience, tasks books and fitness levels for individuals at any agency. IQS also allows the user to analyze the organization's training needs and schedule training based upon the agency needs for incident management personnel. This database can serve as a clearinghouse for prescribed fire practitioners outside the fire industrial complex who can't easily get government qualification cards for prescribed fire.

Partners that will benefit from this program:

- Prescribed Burn Associations
- Tribes
- Non-Profits
- Watershed Councils
- Fire Safe Councils
- Volunteers
- Private Landowners

We see this program qualifying over 100 fire practitioners in the first year. In the second year, we will hold a refresher for that first group while bringing in a second batch of 100 participants.

INCIDENT QUALIFICATION CARD			
Printed 06/03/21	Name TORCHBEARR	Empl ID	
RT-130 Exp 02/18/22	<i>CA-TBA Torchbearr</i>	Fitness	Arduous Expires 03/19/22
QUALIFIED POSITIONS			
Status	Position	Description	Curr Exp
Q	FFT2	Firefighter Type 2	05/25/26
Fold Card Here			
Certifying Official		Title	Date
<i>Torchbearr/ Scot M. Steinbitz</i>		<i>Director of Operations</i>	<i>3-16-2023</i>

INCIDENT QUALIFICATION CARD			
Printed 06/03/21	Name	Empl ID	
RT-130 Exp 02/18/22		Fitness	Arduous Expires 02/02/22
QUALIFIED POSITIONS			
Status	Position	Description	Curr Exp
Q	ENGB	Engine Boss, Single Resource	04/05/26
Q	ENOP	Engine Operator	09/14/25
Q	FFT1	Firefighter Type 1	04/05/26
Q	ICT4	Incident Commander Type 4	04/05/26
Q	CRWB	Crew Boss, Single Resource	04/05/26
Fold Card Here			
Q	CREP	Crew Representative	11/04/25
Q	RCDM	Receiving/Distribution Manager	10/25/23
T	ORDM	Ordering Manager	08/24/23
T	STEN	Strike Team Leader Engine	04/08/22
T	TFLD	Task Force Leader	06/03/24
Certifying Official		Title	Date

Meet our Board of Directors



Leaf Hillman
Board Member

Leaf Hillman has been at the center of Karuk tribal efforts to revitalize cultural resources and peoples for decades. He is a respected tribal leader and cultural practitioner who knows the role of intentional fire and supports efforts to bring it back to our landscapes.



Lenya Quinn- Davidson
Board Member

Lenya founded the Northern California Prescribed Fire Council and also leads the Humboldt Prescribed Burn Association. She has been key in efforts to reform fire policy, encourage the state to do more burning, and build a voice for Rx fire practitioners.



Mike Belchik
Board Member

Mike Belchik is a senior fish biologist at the Yurok Tribe. His home on the Trinity River is routinely impacted by wildfires, storms, closed roads and other rural realities. He understands first-hand the need for more prescribed fire to make our communities safe.

Our Board Chair and Staff



Tom Fielden

Board Member, Chair of the Board

Tom has spent his entire career working in and championing prescribed burning as a critical tool in fire management. Tom now works for the National Parks Service in their fire program and sits on a National Cohesive Strategy on Wildfire Management Committee.



Erica Terence

Director of Planning

With us since our founding, Erica Terence is one of our veteran team members, who brings her years of experience and skills to the forefront in helping our organization grow and succeed. Erica has performed vital roles throughout non-profits ranging from volunteer to leader for the past 16 years.



Scot Steinbring

Board Member, Director of Operations

Scot has been working in fire for more than 30 years, putting in time at state and federal agencies including Tribes. He recognizes the importance of overcoming our fear of fire and using fire on much larger scales.



Services Torchbear Provides

- **Training To National Fire Standards (And Beyond)**

S-110 Basic Wildland Fire Orientation
S-190 Introduction to Wildland Fire Behavior
S-130 Firefighter Training
L-180 Human Factors in the Wildland Fire Service
ICS-100 An Introduction to the Incident Command System
IS-700 Introduction to the National Incident Management System
S-131 Firefighter Type 1 Training
S-211 Portable Pumps and Water Use
S-212 Wildland Fire Chainsaws
S-290 Intermediate Wildland Fire Behavior
L-280 Followership to Leadership
S-200 Initial Attack Incident Commander
S-215 Fire Operations in the Wildland/Urban Interface
S-219 Firing Operations
S-230 Crew Boss Single Resource
S-231 Engine Boss Single Resource
S-330 Task Force/Strike Team Leader
RT-130 Wildland Fire Safety Training Annual Refresher
RT-Packtest

19 classes offered in 2022

400 Possibility of students

309 Hours on instructor teaching

Services Torchbearr Provides

Help With:

Defensible Space

Defensible Inspection

RX Fire Consultation

Sprinkler installation

Fuels Reduction

Burn Boss Type 2

Burn Plan

Smoke Plan

State Permits

Spot Weather Forecasts



Training Communities To Use Controlled Burning

- Workshops
- Prescribed Fire Classes
- Suppression Fire Classes
- Educational Events
- Supporting other Landowners
- Accessible / Affordable Training
- Public Information



MOUs, how they work and why they matter...

- MOUs give us the ability to share resources, equipment, money, training, etc...
- We are talking with National Forests in CA about how to cooperate in this way to do more burning, with Torchbear providing the workforce, and the FS providing the leadership and support
- This streamlines our ability to burn by building relationships with the agencies tasked with managing fire
- Scot is well versed in how to negotiate, construct, and use MOUs to accomplish fuels reduction, prescribed burning, and fire suppression when necessary



USDA, Forest Service

OMB 0596-0217
FS 1500 15

FS Agreement No. 16-MU-11052012-148
Cooperator Agreement No. _____

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
FOR THE PURPOSE OF INCREASING THE USE OF FIRE TO MEET
ECOLOGICAL AND OTHER MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES**
Between the
**USDA, FOREST SERVICE
PACIFIC SOUTHWEST REGION**
AND
**SIERRA FOREST LEGACY,
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION,
STATE OF CALIFORNIA SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY,
THE NATURE CONSERVANCY,
USDI, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE PACIFIC REGION,**

**AGREEMENT FOR SHARED STEWARDSHIP OF CALIFORNIA'S FOREST AND
RANGELANDS**
Between the
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
And the
**USDA, FOREST SERVICE
PACIFIC SOUTHWEST REGION**





Making Communities Safer From Severe Fires



Good Fire In Action



Challenges Torchbearr faces:

- Funding for training! Some Students can't afford registration. They are still allowed training at no cost to the student, but that costs Torchbearr
- Equipment to facilitate trainings
- Facilities to host trainings
- Tools and equipment to enable landowner success in burning
- Federal and state grants to burn are dependent on CEQA or NEPA. This is costly and causes delays
- Funding stream while 501c3 tax-exemption application is pending
- Recovering startup costs

“Torchbearr strengthens our ability to work with interested landowners on a voluntary basis to enhance the management and sustainable use of natural resources in order to ensure the long term economic viability of the community.”

*-Lindsey Lascheck,
Shasta Valley Resource
Conservation District*



March 11, 2022

Dear Prospective Torchbearr Funder,

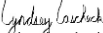
The Shasta Valley Resource Conservation District (SVRCD) partners with the non-profit organization Torchbearr in the Siskiyou Prescribed Burn Association (SPBA) to increase local capacity for prescribed fire and would like to offer the following account of our experience working with Torchbearr.

Torchbearr is providing services that are vital to increasing our capacity to support community-based burning and expand the use of intentional fire at larger scales. Their fire classes help our staff and partners fulfill requirements and achieve higher qualifications to close the credibility gaps we often face as prescribed fire practitioners. Torchbearr adds to the ecosystem of fire organizations a group dedicated to training, burning, and supporting other groups in California such as SVRCD and the SPBA that conduct trainings and burns with the goal of increasing prescribed fire workforce capacity.

SVRCD hosted a prescribed fire training in February 2021 and Torchbearr's qualified burn boss services were critical to the success of the live-fire component of the training. Beyond a qualification on paper, Torchbearr's burn boss brought leadership, relationships with and notifications to required state agencies, ample hands-on training, and diligent monitoring after the burn to ensure the private landowner had the support they needed to safely host the burn.

I strongly encourage you to grant funds to or otherwise invest in Torchbearr to help the organization accomplish its mission of promoting prescribed burning for a brighter fire future for all. SVRCD benefits from a flourishing Torchbearr organization, as it strengthens our ability to accomplish our mission of working with interested landowners on a voluntary basis to enhance the management and sustainable use of natural resources in order to ensure the long term economic viability of the community.

Thank you,


Lyndsey Lascheck
Forestry and Fuels Project Manager

215 Executive Court, Suite A, Yreka, CA 96097
(530) 572-3120
www.svr.cd.org

“Torchbearr helps to increase the delivery of critical fire trainings, the planning and safe implementation of prescribed fire, and organization around key issues that are currently hindering the expansion of prescribed burning practices.”

*-Will Harling,
Mid Klamath Watershed
Council*



Mid Klamath Watershed Council
P.O. Box 409, Orleans, CA 95556 (primary)
P.O. Box 50, Happy Camp, CA 96039
Tel: (530) 627-3202
www.mkwc.org
mail@mkwc.org

Dear Prospective Torchbearr Funder,

The Mid Klamath Watershed Council would like to offer the following account of our experience working with the non-profit organization Torchbearr.

Torchbearr is providing services that are key to increasing our capacity to use intentional fire at larger scales. Their fire classes are helping our staff and partners fulfill requirements and achieve higher qualifications to close the credibility gaps we often face as prescribed fire practitioners.

Torchbearr's qualified burn boss services fill a needed gap in delivering good fire to landowners across Northern California and beyond. Torchbearr's burn boss capacity brings decades of fire experience, including relationships with and notifications to required state agencies, ample hands-on training, and diligent monitoring after the burn.

Torchbearr adds a needed component to the constellation of organizations working in the arena of fire policy, planning, and implementation. Torchbearr is dedicated to training and burning and supporting other groups in California doing training and burning with the goal of building a mobile prescribed fire workforce. This kind of capacity aids Prescribed Burn Associations, NGO's, and fire practitioners to safely plan and implement prescribed burns, while attaining adequate skills, knowledge, and resources to develop programs supporting increased use of prescribed fire as a tool.

I strongly encourage you to grant funds to or otherwise invest in Torchbearr to help the organization accomplish its mission of promoting prescribed burning for a brighter fire future for all. Our organization has benefited from our relationship with the Torchbearr through employees taking needed fire courses. Your support for Torchbearr helps to increase the delivery of critical fire trainings, the planning and safe implementation of prescribed fire, and organization around key issues that are currently hindering the expansion of prescribed burning practices. Torchbearr staff have the capacity to make significant contributions to the Good Fire movement in California and beyond in the coming years. Please consider supporting their efforts in meaningful ways as we work together to scale up prescribed fire across the West.

Thank you,



Will Harling, Director
Mid Klamath Watershed Council

What our Community & Partners Say About Torchbearr

What our Community & Partners Say About Torchbearr

Evaluations direct from our students:

- Local knowledge of instructor.
- Local fire knowledge shared widely.
- Thank you so much, S-290 was a hard class to find.
- I love that you are having Fire School when I'll be graduated from high school!



Torchbearr

Be A Torchbearr, Not a Torchbarrier!

Over and over again, we see that capacity to burn and political will to burn are the two biggest limiting factors we face. Help us overcome these obstacles.

Here's how you can help:

- 1) Invest
- 2) Connect us with Others Who Want To Help.
- 3) Help us get into the right board rooms and philanthropic plans
- 4) Champion our cause - become a Torchbearr ambassador
- 5) Contribute time, skills, equipment or other non-monetary goods and services
- 6) Write us into your will, and encourage others to do the same. We can help you do this

**Let's Manage Fire With Fire,
Not With Fear**

