

**We will always be learning to live with wildfire.**

But 2018 was a year of noteworthy progress. Our network members demonstrated even greater resolve to restore and maintain resilient landscapes, and help our communities better life with fire. I believe we do our best work when we work together. That means having frank, open conversations, learning from our mistakes, and celebrating the wins. That's how we'll continue to make headway living with wildfire in Washington.

- Washington Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network Director, Hilary

**WE CONNECT HARD-WORKING PEOPLE  
FOCUSED ON FIRE**

The Washington Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network (WAFAC) is a peer learning network that supports local action, connects people to resources, facilitates results, and influences and informs on-the-ground projects to help Washington better adapt to wildfire. We're leading the way to better prepare our communities before, during, and after fires by engaging communities, agencies, and organizations to develop and act on place-based strategies and priorities.

**2018 AT A GLANCE**

Thanks to the work of our resourceful members and the support of partners, our network has achieved great things!



**COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT**

**MT. ADAMS RESOURCE STEWARDS (MARS)**

MARS hired their first forest stewardship crew to tackle restoration projects where local contractors weren't available. They worked with partners to host wildfire preparedness demonstrations, and collaboratively completed 109 acres of prescribed burning and 43 acres of mechanical fuels reduction. They also continued to explore biomass utilization solutions to improve forest health and reduce fire risk.

To learn more: [mtadamsstewards.org](http://mtadamsstewards.org)

**COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT**

**CHELAN COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT 1 (CCFD1)**

CCFD1 collaborated with partners to provide residents in Wenatchee with tools and resources to increase their fire preparedness. Together, they hosted community vegetation removal and chainsaw safety workshops; created and distributed bi-lingual educational resources about evacuation, ember ignition, and wildfire risk reduction; planned and supported a Latinx community clean-up day; and developed and practiced an evacuation plan for 300 horses, cattle, and goats.

Visit: [chelancountyfire.com](http://chelancountyfire.com)

## LEARNING IS AT THE CENTER OF OUR WORK

We invest in learning because learning leads to action. In 2018 our network provided opportunities for members to connect with each other, as well as with experts around the nation. Members demonstrated their commitment to try new ideas, and shared what worked (and what didn't). Our network is large, but so is our state — by connecting communities, we spread new ideas and spurred more fire preparedness work across Washington.



**NORTH CENTRAL WASHINGTON  
TOURISM SUMMIT**  
Wenatchee, WA

The Summit focused on developing business continuity plans, specifically for businesses in the tourism sector where wildfire is the most frequent natural disaster.



**WASHINGTON FIRE ADAPTED  
COMMUNITIES WORKSHOP**  
Glenwood, WA

Fifty participants, including WAFAC members, staff, state and federal partners, and others, engaged in two training sessions: Interpersonal Leadership and Engaging Diverse Communities.

## WE GREW OUR NETWORK AND OUR TEAM

The scale of our task and the geographically distinct regions of our state demand that smart people with different perspectives come together. So we added three new communities to the network: Cascadia Conservation District, San Juan Islands Conservation District, and Okanogan County Long Term Recovery. We also grew our team by adding a contracts and finance specialist to the network's investments in the work our member communities are undertaking. Finally, we launched a new website to better communicate how network members influence change across the state.



## OUR PARTNERS AND FUNDERS

With gratitude and appreciation, the Washington Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network is supported by:



## PEER LEARNING EVENTS/WORKSHOPS

- **National Fire Learning Networks Workshop**  
Wenatchee, WA
- **Yale University's Tools for Engaging Landowners Effectively** Spokane, WA
- **Three Peer-to-Peer Learning Exchanges**  
Ashland, OR; Nine Mile Falls, WA; Ellensburg, WA
- **2018 Wildland Urban Interface Conference**  
Reno, NV
- **Colorado Wildfire Summit**  
Colorado
- **National Fire Academy Wildland Urban Interface and Fire Adapted Communities Course**  
Emmitsburg, MD

## MEET THE SAN JUAN ISLANDS CONSERVATION DISTRICT (SJICD)



New to the network, SJICD is focusing on restoring fire adapted landscapes across a series of islands in northwest Washington, implementing a biochar fuel reduction program, and partnering with the BLM and other stakeholders to identify and implement outreach strategies to minimize human-caused ignitions.

[sanjuanislandscd.org](http://sanjuanislandscd.org)

