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Here is a radio interview I did with Candice Michel of KCIW FM "Curry County Community Radio" in Brookings when I was there two weeks ago. It has been playing this past week during the popular one-hour "Our Community" show hosted by Candice.

The topic of the interview was the 2017 Chetco Bar Fire, the current 2018 Klondike Fire, and their mutual genesis in the Kalmiopsis Wilderness. And what can/should be done about it.

The first thirty minutes of the program involved eyewitness accounts of the fires by local Brookings residents Guy McMahan and Al Stroh, and by Jeri Lynn Thompson, whose ancestral ranch was heavily damaged during the Chetco Bar Fire, which also threatened the lives of her family, including her grandchildren. Jeri Lynn's family has owned and lived on the ranch since 1880: for six generations, including herself and three current generations, and the more than 20 ancestors commemorated in the family graveyard. Her childhood home, the barn, the solar-powered electrical system, and some timber was lost, and the remainder barely saved. Jeri Lynn is also of Rogue River Tututuni descent and is a member (and Vice Chairperson) of the Tolowa Dee-ni', and these fires are also doing great physical and biological damage to the lands and wildlife that were home and subsistence to her family's and Tribe's ancestors for thousands of years.

The final 30 minute interview was with me and mostly focused on the history and need for better mitigation of these fires. The previous week's program also featured Jeri Lynn, but included Merv George, the new Forest Supervisor for the Rogue-Siskiyou. It is an excellent interview and Sup. George seems like the exact right person at the right time and place for helping to fix this mess.