

Longleaf Tree-Ring Network (LTRN) Collaboration and Data Sharing Plan
June 2021

The LTRN is a collaborative research working group focused on tree-ring research of longleaf pine (*Pinus palustris* Mill.)

Our principal objectives are: [1] increase public availability of extant but unpublished longleaf tree-ring chronologies, [2] update and extend previously-developed records, [3] develop new records within geographic areas without representation, [4] explore the development of longleaf records based on new and emerging tree-ring methods (e.g. earlywood/latewood and false-ring chronologies), [5] conduct a suite of broad-scale analyses of longleaf across its geographic range, and [6] promote the value and utility of longleaf tree-ring records to other stakeholders who may benefit from awareness of their potential application (e.g., researchers in relevant fields, land managers).

Initial Collaboration

Our initial collaborative projects includes the development of a database of longleaf tree-ring record information and the underlying records in the form of chronologies and ringwidth measurements, a manuscript reviewing the longleaf tree-ring literature and introducing the project, and a potential “Data Description” article detailing the available data.

Our working group currently includes nine core group members:

Grant Harley, Matthew Therrell Principle project facilitators
Justin Maxwell, Tyler Mitchell- dendroclimatology
Monica Rother Michael Stambaugh- fire history
Arvind Bhuta, Nichole Zampieri- dendroecology
Tommy Patterson dendroarchaeology/cultural studies

We invite researchers willing to contribute data to the project to be co-authors on the review and/or data description manuscripts. In cases in which tree-ring data were developed by multiple researchers, co-authors associated with any individual dataset will be agreed between the data contributors and the LLTRN project facilitator (G. Harley) before signing the data sharing agreement. Co-authorship will be offered for the LLTRN data paper or the LLTRN review paper, and will not automatically be extended to any publications that analyse the resulting datasets. Authorship of any future publications that analyse the resulting datasets will be agreed upon by project members as they are developed.

Data Sharing

This agreement governs the terms under which data associated with the LLTRN dataset will be shared and published. The LLTRN “dataset” will consist of three primary components: 1) location information and metadata of published longleaf tree-ring collections or those communicated to this group, 2) longleaf tree-ring chronologies (ringwidth, fire scar, or other variables, and associated metadata, 3) raw ringwidth (or similar variable) measurements and associated metadata, 4) results of analyses of any of the three listed components.

It is the group’s hope and intention that all available tree-ring measurements will ultimately be publicly available and archived in an appropriate repository (e.g., ITRDB). It is our intention that the first dataset component (location and description of known collections) will be published either as a data paper, or as a supplement to the review paper. We encourage data contributors to make their raw data publicly available and any published analyses arising from this collaboration must at a minimum, make all chronology data and preferably raw measurement data publicly available. Contribution of data to the LLTRN dataset implies and confirms that contributors are sharing these data with other LLTRN members with the expectation of the offer of collaborative research and the associated publication of these data.

This data sharing agreement is intended to confirm the rights related to data ownership and co-authorship for LLTRN dataset and to govern the process by which the dataset will be published. It must be signed by all data contributors.

- 1)** Component 1 (location data) of the LLTRN dataset will be published so that the data contained in the dataset will be accessible to all researchers, without restriction. Data contributors agree that by sharing the data and signing this agreement, they consent to the open publishing of all shared data, without restriction on use.
- 2)** Component 2 and/or 3 data will be available to group members for research with the understanding that collaboration among relevant contributors is expected unless otherwise communicated by contributors. It is a group expectation that collaborators will archive and make publicly available any relevant data used in published analyses.
- 3)** Co-authorship will be offered to all data contributors for the first data paper (and/or the review paper announcing the dataset and group description). We extend the offer of co-authorship to the main dataset contributor and other major contributors to the creation of the dataset. The final list of co-authors associated with any individual dataset will be agreed between the data contributors and the LLTRN Principle facilitator (Grant Harley) before signing the data sharing agreement. We expect that at a minimum all co-authors will review and offer edits on the review and or data manuscripts. Both manuscripts will include an “Authorship Contribution Credit” statement.

- 4) Data contributors are asked format their data as required for incorporation into the LLTRN dataset, following provided instructions, and to take responsibility for ensuring that the contributed data are accurate.
- 5) Data contained within the LLTRN dataset will not be shared outside the group prior to publication of the LLTRN data or review paper, without the written agreement of data contributors.

1. Dataset contributor

Printed name	
Institution	
Contact details	
Date	
Signature	

2. On behalf of the following agreed list of co-authors

Printed name	Institution	Contact details

3. On behalf of the LLTRN project

Printed name	Dr Grant Harley
Institution	Department of Geography, University of Idaho
Contact details	gharley@uidaho.edu
Date	
Signature	