As the coronavirus (COVID-19) situation continues to evolve daily, the Forest Stewards Guild is keeping a close eye on the unfolding events. Like all organizations impacted by the virus, we are striving to maintain open and timely communications regarding impacts to our staff, members, and project partners. Everyone at the Guild shares equal concern for stewardship of public health as we do for stewardship of forests. In alignment with our mission, vision, principles, and our diversity, inclusion, and anti-discrimination values, we feel it is our obligation to care for the health and welfare of the entire community.

As a staff, we are following state or local emergency declarations, determining the impacts of those declarations to projects, and communicating those impacts with our project partners. For instance, in any state that has declared a state of emergency and/or restricted travel by state personnel, we are following the state’s lead and postponing or cancelling events. Our Directors are reviewing our programs to determine short- and long-term impacts to planned activities and personnel.

Our program staff are working from home, we are working to accommodate the needs of our remote staff, and Fire Management is diligently working with our partners to manage the safety and wellbeing of the Air Force Wildland Fire Branch crews.

During this challenging time, we appreciate the patience, flexibility, and fortitude of all in the Guild family and forest stewardship community. Please do not hesitate to reach out to the Guild with your questions and concerns.