

Fire Ecology

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Fire as a Management Tool

- Ecosystem Resilience
 - Maintain and steward ecological diverse habitats that have a wide capacity to maintain integrity within the framework of a changing climate and human environments
 - Benefit species dependent on or benefit from fire
 - Establish and maintain understory diversity
 - Fuels management
 - Maintain and promote cultural resources



Fire as a Management Tool

- Fire effects are diverse
 - Conservation, Safety, Fuels Goals and resource results need to be clearly stated and potential fire effects understood
 - Understanding species and communities response to fire events
 - Monitoring outcomes



Fire Ecology

- Fire Adaptation of Species
- How Fire Shapes Vegetation Communities
- Fire Timing and Frequency
- Fire Behavior







- Resisters
- Sprouters
- Seeders
- Invaders
- Avoiders



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Resisters survive moderate to lowintensity fires with little damage. Adaptations include Thick bark, deep roots and shedding of their lower branches. Examples include, ponderosa pine, sugar pine, and Douglas-fir



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Sprouters resprout from their roots, trunks, limbs, and/or crown after a fire. Examples include, black oak, aspen, and madrone.







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Seeders are species whose seeds germinate after fire often requiring germination cues from smoke or heat. Some examples include: buckbrush,lodgepole pine, and manzanita.







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Invaders can be native or non-native and disperse into recently burned areas rapidly, but do not require fire to germinate. Invaders tend to have seeds that are highly dispersive by wind, animals, or people.



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- Avoiders Avoiders are the least adapted to fire because and grow in areas no conducive to frequent fire like near water or in high elevations. Avoiders are a late successional species, thus they are not found in recently burned areas. white fir, vine maple, western red cedar, and western hemlock.



California Vegetation & Fire



Oak Woodland

Diversity of understory





Oak Woodland

• Douglas fir encroachment



Oak Woodland

• Douglas fir encroachment







Chaparral

- Chamise
- Arctostphylos
- Coastal scrub





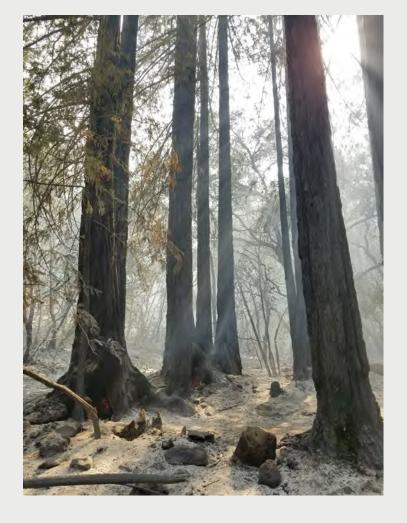


Coastal Prairie

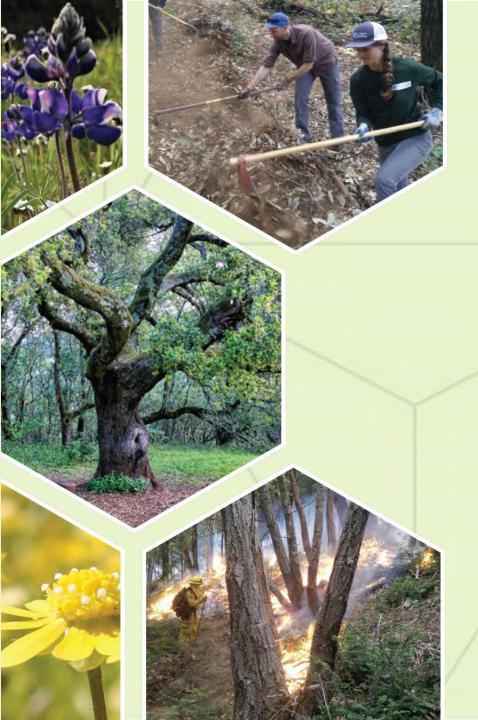




Redwood Forest







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