University of Idaho
College of Natural Resources

Post-Fire Tree Regeneration and Fuels Across the Northern Rockies Following Large Wildfires

Science Meta-Analyses, Management Scenarios, and Workshops

We are engaging forest managers in workshops to co-create management scenarios that aim to help manage tree regeneration, fuels, and adapt to climate change impacts in post-fire environments. We have synthesized the science on the implications of changing climate on post-fire tree regeneration and fuels, drawing upon meta-analysis of observed post-fire tree regeneration, or lack of it, as influenced by burn severity and climate across 52 fires within mixed-conifer forests of the Rockies. We will incorporate tree regeneration data, post-fire fuels data, and projected climate of the next 40 years into scenarios developed with managers. We plan to conduct a series of focus groups and workshops in National Forests of the U.S. Northern Rockies. These efforts are designed to inform and learn from forest managers across various sectors, and produce useable materials to facilitate post-fire management. Workshops will be **February 23, 2018 in Missoula,** and the **week of March 5-9 in McCall, Boise, and Jackson**.

Focus Group and Workshop Topics

- Presentation on climate influenced tree seedling density and species composition following wildfires; the relative importance of bottom-up drivers like distance to seed source, burn severity and parent material compared to the top-down drivers of climate; and variation of the distribution of seedlings by age class as a function of time since wildfires.
- Presentation on stand structure and surface fuels as a means to understand post-fire fuel dynamics, standing snag fall rates, and rates of post-fire surface woody fuel accumulation.
- Presentation and co-creation of scenarios based on our findings, aiming to develop a framework and guidelines for evaluating the conditions and locations where tree regeneration will or won't be successful following wildfires, with or without management interventions.
- Evaluate the utility of our findings and scenarios, and applicability to forest management.

Funding for these workshops is provided by the USDA/USDOI Joint Fire Science Program, and findings will be widely shared through the Northern Rockies Fire Science Network.

Interested in Participating?

We are soliciting interest and feedback from forest managers, silviculturalists, and restoration and regeneration specialists, and we hope you will join us! Specific dates and locations of the workshops are below. For more information or to express interest, please feel free to contact us using the information below.

February 23: Missoula workshop
March 6: McCall, ID workshop
March 7: Boise, ID workshop
March 8: Jackson Hole, WY workshop

NORTHERN ROCKIES FIRE SCIENCE NETWORK

Who We Are

Primary team members are:

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JOINT FIRE SCIENCE PROGRAM