

Progress Report

JFSP Project ID 07-1-6-11

Title: Tradeoffs in Fire Hazard vs. Societal Benefits in Wildland-Urban Interface Communities

Progress FY08

1. Hired graduate students (Christopher Haama and Alexandra Kirkpatrick).
2. Created website for project
(<http://www.nrm.calpoly.edu/research/firelab/FireVsBenefits/index.ldml>)
3. Presented research in talk entitled "The paradox of vegetative fire risk versus societal benefits in a Southwestern wildland-urban interface community" at the Association for Fire Ecology's conference "Fire in the Southwest: Integrating Fire into Management of Changing Ecosystems". Tucson, Arizona, January 28-31, 2008.
4. Presented research in seminar entitled "Planning for fire in the wildland-urban interface" at the University of California, Davis. March 4, 2008.
5. Data collection completed in chaparral community on Cleveland National Forest. Data collection near completion in Sierra mixed-conifer community on Yosemite National Park, Sierra National Forest, and Stanislaus National Forest.
6. Research paper currently in revision for the journal Fire Ecology (authors C.A. Dicus, K. Delfino, and D.R. Weise).
7. Invited speaker to present research at 2008 FireWise Backyards and Beyond Educational Conference, Tampa Florida, November 6-8, 2008.
8. Invited speaker to present research at Association for Fire Ecology's Pacific Coast Fire Conference: Changing Fire Regimes, Goals and Ecosystems. San Diego, California December 1-4, 2008.
9. Invited poster presenter at Association for Fire Ecology's Pacific Coast Fire Conference: Changing Fire Regimes, Goals and Ecosystems. San Diego, California December 1-4, 2008.

Challenges:

Biggest concern has been finding appropriate replicates of treatments, especially in Sierra mixed-conifer. Many treated sites initially identified by local managers were deemed to be too variable in terms of treatment age and intensity. We are currently overcoming this obstacle with extensive and careful reconnaissance.