Forest Health Research Program Grantee Webinar:

# Pushing the envelope - Are there downsides to extending the burn window for black oaks?

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**Wednesday, July 31, 2024**
3:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Register here

***Abstract:*** The burn window for prescribed burns is restricted both by weather/fuels and by ecological objectives like retaining high-value mature trees such as black oaks (Quercus kelloggii). We leveraged a burn timing experiment in the Cleveland National Forest, with replicated spring burns before and after black oak leafout, to test whether there are consequences for tree heath of extending the spring burn window. Surprisingly, we found only subtle effects of extending the burn window on black oaks, but considerable impacts on pines, with varied implications for tree populations, fuels and habitat.

**Dr. Leander Anderegg** is an Assistant Professor at UC Santa Barbara. **Ryan Fass** is a Masters Student at UCSB, graduating in Fall of 2024. **Dr. Nicole Molinari** is the Southern California Province Ecologist at the U.S. Forest Service. All three love oaks, healthy forests and assisting adaptive management.

The Forest Health Research Program is part of California Climate Investments, a statewide initiative that puts billions of Cap-and-Trade dollars to work reducing greenhouse gas emissions, strengthening the economy, and improving public health and the environment — particularly in disadvantaged communities.

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