

Forest Health Research Program Grantee Webinar:

From Past to Present: Revised Estimates of Historical Burned Areas and Emissions in California and Modern Deviations from Pre-Euroamerican Settlement Fire Frequencies

Andrea Duane, PhD and Hugh Safford, PhD, University of California, Davis



Wednesday, February 19, 2025

2:00 pm – 3:00 pm

[Register here](#)

Abstract: Our presentation explores new estimates and tools for understanding historical versus current fire regimes in California. First, we present updated estimates of historical burned areas and fire emissions across the state, incorporating indigenous cultural burning practices, and binning our results by vegetation types and California ecoregions. We also describe our work to update the California FRID (Fire Return Interval Departure) database with new vegetation types, expanding beyond federal land, using new baseline values, and incorporating an uncertainty measure. These products fill important information gaps for fire, ecosystem, air, and carbon managers in California.

Andrea Duane is a postdoctoral researcher at the University of California, Davis, focused on understanding and quantifying fire regime changes at landscape scales and their effects on ecosystems. **Hugh Safford** is a fire and vegetation ecologist at the University of California, Davis.

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.

