

Forest Health Research Program Grantee Webinar:

Health Impacts of Future Prescribed Fire Smoke: Considerations from an Exposure Scenario in California

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and Ana Rappold, PhD, US Environmental Protection Agency



Wednesday, May 29, 2024

11:00 am – 12:00 pm

[Register here](#)

Abstract: California plans to expand the use of prescribed fire. This study evaluated the impact of increased prescribed fire on cardiorespiratory health burden in high-priority wildfire risk areas compared to past prescribed fires. Projections indicated a higher frequency of smoke exposure days, although at lower concentrations and with fewer high-concentration days compared to the past. The increase in exposures near populated regions led to an increase in health impacts relative to past prescribed fire. Understanding the impacts of prescribed fire is crucial for public health and wildfire safety.



Andrew Rosenberg is a research scientist in the Environmental Health Investigations Branch at California Department of Public Health. He investigates the health impacts of air pollution and wildfire smoke across California. **Dr. Ana Rappold** is a statistician and Chief of EPA's Clinical Research Branch in the Office of Research and Development. She conducts clinical and epidemiological research on the health effects of air pollution and wildland fire smoke.

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.

