Forest Health Research Program Grantee Webinar:

Assessing Shrubland Biomass in Southern California: New data, New Tools

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Wednesday, June 28, 2023 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm Register here



Abstract: Chaparral shrublands are an iconic vegetation type in southern California and dominate the four southern National Forests. However, information on shrubland biomass and the impacts of wildfire has been limited. We highlight data and a tool created as part of our CalFire-funded research, undertaken in collaboration with the USDA Forest Service. We describe the development of new biomass datasets, findings on the drivers of shrubland biomass, and biomass recovery post-fire and demonstrate the SoCal EcoServe tool designed to quantify wildfire impacts on ecosystem services and support resource managers conducting natural resource damage assessments.



Emma Underwood is a research scientist at the University of California, Davis. A central theme of her research is the application of geospatial data and tools to inform environmental decision-making. Emma's research in southern California has focused on mapping shrubland biomass, assessing wildfire and climate impacts on ecosystem services, conducting experiments in shrubland restoration, and developing tools to support resource managers.



Charlie Schrader-Patton is a contract Senior Geospatial Analyst for the USDA Forest Service Geospatial Technology Applications Center. Since 2008, he has supported geospatial activities for the USDA Forest Service Western Wildlands Environmental Threat Assessment Center (WWETAC), a multi-disciplinary group of scientists dedicated to assessing impacts to wildlands and working with partners in research and management to understand threats and sustain ecosystem services.

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.



