

## Wildfire Management • No. 167 • 2/06

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### Management

1. Bergman, Stefan A. and John C. Bliss. **Foundations of cross-boundary cooperation: Resource management at the public-private interface.** *Society & Natural Resources*, v. 17, no. 5, p. 377, May/June 2004. (17 pages)  
“This research explores the opportunities and challenges for cooperative fire management among public and private forest managers in the John Day Valley of eastern Oregon, an arid and fire-dependent region dominated by large federal ownerships and private ranches. Data were derived from in-depth interviews with public and private land managers, ranchers, forest industry representatives, environmental activists, community leaders, and others.”
  2. Eastman, Jim. **Fuels management for wildfire prevention.** *Fire Engineering*, v. 158, p. 3-7, May 2005. (4 pages)  
This article provides an overview of the current fuels management initiatives, including the Healthy Forest Restoration Act, and discusses the importance of federal, state and local agency partnerships for effective fuels management.
  3. Kneeshaw, Katie, Jerry J. Vaske, Alan D. Bright and James D. Absher. **Situational influences of acceptable wildland fire management actions.** *Society & Natural Resources*, v. 17, no. 6, p. 477, July 2004. (13 pages)  
“This article examines the effect of fire-specific situational factors on forest users’ normative beliefs about wildland fire management. The acceptability of three fire management actions for eight scenarios was examined. The scenarios varied five factors: (1) fire origin, (2) air quality impact, (3) risk of private property damage, (4) forest recovery, and (5) outdoor recreation impact.”
  4. Kumagai, Yoshitaka, John C. Bliss, Steven E. Daniels and Matthew S. Carroll. **Research on causal attribution of wildfire: An exploratory multiple-methods approach.** *Society & Natural Resources*, v. 17, no. 2, p. 113, February 2004. (15 pages)  
“Although studies show that actions by property owners, such as maintaining a defensible space, are generally the best means of protecting property from wildfire, victims often blame government agencies and others for property damage, injury, and death. This article describes a multiple-methods approach for investigating factors that influence how people who experience wildfire perceive the cause of wildfire damage.”
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5. Nazzaro, Robin M. **Wildland fire management: Progress and future challenges, protecting structures, and improving communications: GAO-05-627T.** *GAO Reports*, April 26, 2005. (27 pages)

“During these wildland fires, effective communications among the public safety agencies responding from various areas is critical, but can be hampered by incompatible radio equipment. This testimony discusses (1) progress made and future challenges to managing wildland fire, (2) measures to help protect structures, and (3) the role of technology in improving responder communications during fires.”

## Boreal Forests

6. Cruz, Miguel G., Martin E. Alexander and Ronald H. Wakimoto. **Development and testing of models for predicting crown fire rate of spread in conifer forest stands.** *Canadian Journal of Forest Research*, v. 35, no. 7, p. 1626, July 2005. (14 pages)

“The rate of spread of crown fires advancing over level to gently undulating terrain was modeled through nonlinear regression analysis based on an experimental data set pertaining primarily to boreal forest fuel types. While the models have some shortcomings and areas in need of improvement, they can be readily utilized in support of fire management decision-making and other fire research studies.”

7. Neff, J. C., J. W. Harden and G. Gleixner. **Fire effects on soil organic matter content, composition, and nutrients in boreal interior Alaska.** *Canadian Journal of Forest Research*, v. 35, no. 9 p. 2178, September 2005. (10 pages)

“Boreal ecosystems contain a substantial fraction of the earth’s soil carbon stores and are prone to frequent and severe wildfires. In this study, we examine changes in element and organic matter stocks due to a 1999 wildfire in Alaska.”

## Plans & Programs

8. Dennis-Parks, Reda M. **Healthy Forests Restoration Act—Will it really protect homes and communities?** *Ecology Law Quarterly*, v. 31, no. 3, p. 639-664, 2004. (26 pages)

The author labels the Healthy Forest Restoration Act as an “imperfect solution that may cause more harm than good...noting that inadequate funding means that the areas in actual need of thinning, the forest neighbored by and affecting communities, will not be treated. Instead, timber companies will be able to harvest valuable old

growth from isolated forest, in reality worsening the effects of fires on communities.”

9. Henson, Carol J. **Rapid-response fire behavior research and real-time monitoring.** *Fire Management Today*, v. 65, no. 3, p. 23, Summer 2005. (4 pages)

Author Carol Henson is a fire behavior analyst, providing some practical insights for fire managers planning projects. She gives an account of how the Adaptive Management Services Enterprise Team conducted a research project collecting fire behavior data during actual wildfires.

10. Keller, Jeremy and Bill Lowe. **Making federal rural fire programs work for your department.** *Fire Engineering*, v. 158, no. 7, p. 93, July 2005. (3 pages)

“This article will help demystify the federal rural fire programs, present an overview of policies impacting an shaping these programs, and provide information regarding seven programs sponsored by the federal agencies.”

11. Mannelin, Gene. **What is a community wildfire protection plan?** *Minnesota Fire Chief*, v. 41, no. 3, p. 36, January/February 2005. (1 page)

“A Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) is a local wildfire protection plan based on the needs of the people involved in its development and includes issues such as wildfire response, hazard mitigation, community preparedness and structure protection.”

## Risk Management

12. Bonazountas, Marc, Despina Kallidromitou and P.A. Kassomenos. **Forest fire risk analysis.** *Human & Ecological Risk Assessment*, v. 11, no. 3, p. 617, June 2005. (10 pages)

“Southern Europe suffers from forest fires. The management of these disasters is of importance to both government authorities and the public. This article presents the results of a research project aimed at modeling forest fire events and producing fire risk maps, providing a tool for use by authorities to estimate risks for forest fire management.”

13. Dellasala, Dominick A., Jack E. Williams, Cindy Deacon Williams and Jerry F. Franklin. **Beyond smoke and mirrors: A synthesis of fire policy and science.** *Conservation Biology*, v. 18, no. 4, p. 976, August 2004. (11 pages)

“Shifts in fire behavior have triggered sweeping policy changes that were intended to prevent or contain fires but that pose significant risks to the integrity of ecosystems and the role fire historically played in shaping them. The authors provide a social and ecological context for summarizing this special issue on fires, including general

guidelines and principles for managers concerned about balancing the risks of inaction against the risks of action over extensive areas.”

14. Yoder, Jonathan. **Playing with fire: Endogenous risk in resource management.** *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, v. 86, no. 4, p. 933, November 2004. (16 pages)

“Prescribed fire as a wildfire risk mitigation tool is receiving increasing attention in the United States after a century of emphasis on suppression. A dynamic economic model of prescribed fire use, precaution, and timing is developed and applied to three important policy issues: vegetation management on the wildland-urban interface; the effect of liability on vegetation management decisions; and the problem of heavy initial fuel loads after years of suppression and fuel accumulation.”

## Technology

15. Mitri, G.H. and I.Z. Gitas. **A performance evaluation of a burned area object-based classification model when applied to topographically and non-topographically corrected TM imagery.** *International Journal of Remote Sensing*, v. 25, no. 14, p. 2863, July 20, 2004. (8 pages)

“The aim of this work was to evaluate the performance of an object-based classification model developed for burned area mapping, when applied to topographically and non-topographically corrected Landsat Thematic Mapper (TM) imagery for a site on the Greek island of Thasos. It was concluded that topographic correction is not essential prior to object-based classification of a burned Mediterranean landscape using TM data.”

16. Robichaud, Peter R. and Jim Bilskie. **A new tool for fire managers—an electronic duff moisture meter.** *Fire Management Today*, v. 64, no. 2, p. 15, Spring 2004. (4 pages)

Despite advancing technology and ever-improving models, fire managers still find it challenging to determine the right time for a prescribed burn. The authors discovered that “the DMM600, a duff moisture meter, provides reliable, real-time measurements of duff moisture content.”

17. Schell, Sarana. **Software highlights Alaska neighborhoods fire-fighting risks and resources.** *Anchorage Daily News*, October 7, 2004.

“How big of a risk is wildfire in my neighborhood? Foresters Sue Rodman and Michelle Weston have a powerful new tool to help answer that question: a computer

program that weighs risks, like nearby beetle-killed spruce, against fire-fighting resources, such as a pond across the street.”

18. Scott, William B. **Firefighting tech.** *Aviation Week & Space Technology*, v. 159, no. 20, p. 64, November 17, 2003. (2 pages)

This article discusses the development of remote-sensing and information technologies with respect to aerial firefighting in order to improve safety and operational efficiencies.



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