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Check out our Fall 2014 Newsletter! Lots of great information...
To have your event or research listed in our next newsletter, [contact us!](#)



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Events in the Southwest

Field Trips:

Do you have a project you'd like to showcase? Do you know of one? [Send us a proposal!](#)

Workshops:

[Wildland fire smoke in the sky: What does it mean to me?](#) An interactive workshop targeting professionals and the public. Nov 6-8, 2014 in Albuquerque, NM. Registration now open! [Visit the website](#) for more info...

Fire related Conferences:

[Wildland Fire Canada](#), October 7-9, 2014 in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

[Society for Ecological Restoration- Texas and Southwest Chapters](#), October 17-19, 2014 in Alpine, Texas.

Greetings <<First Name>>!

FALL 2014 NEWSLETTER

Featured Note

A new report on resource benefit fire

by Molly Hunter, Jose Iniguez, Calvin Farris

The Deer Head Fire clears away hazardous fuels on Mica Mountain in Saguaro National Park. Photo courtesy of the National Park Service.



The 2014 fire season in the Southwest has been a banner year for managing wildfires for resource benefit. The monsoonal moisture, lightning ignitions, and lack of strong, sustained winds provided ample opportunities for allowing fire to spread safely across landscapes with beneficial effects and many managers took advantage of these favorable conditions. Notable examples include five wildfires in the Kaibab National Forest that spread over 27,000 acres and the Skunk Fire that spread over 73,000 acres on the San Carlos Apache Reservation.

One of these fires, the Deer Head Fire, burned in a remote part of Saguaro National Park where resource benefit fires have been managed for over 40 years. As a result, some areas in the footprint of the Deer Head Fire have experienced fire up to ten times in the last 80 years. Those fires have created open forests dominated by

SWFSC is partially funding the fire related conference field trips- join us there!

["Managing Fire. Understanding Ourselves: Human Dimensions in Safety and Wildland Fire."](#) IAWF.

April 20-24, 2015 in Boise, ID.

Publications:

-- Special Issue: ["Synthesis on Crown Fire Behavior in Conifer Forests"](#) Fire Management Today, 73:4, 2014.

-- ["Fire Behavior Field Reference Guide."](#) NWCG, 2014.

--["History of the Four Forests Restoration Initiative: 1980s-2010."](#) Egan and Neilsen, 2014.

--["Unsupported inferences of high-severity fire in historical dry forests of the western U.S.: A reponse to Williams and Baker."](#) Fulé 2014.

relatively large trees, a stark contrast to the dense stands found in forests throughout the Southwest where fire suppression has been the dominant practice.

The Gila National Forest also has as long of a history with resource benefit fire. In wilderness areas there, managers began using resource benefit fires in the 1970's. Like in Saguaro National Park, reintroducing repeated fires to these areas has produced beneficial effects in terms of fuels reduction, wildlife habitat, and overall ecosystem resilience. Given the history of these programs, managers who are implementing resource benefit fire today have much to learn from Saguaro National Park and the Gila National Forest.

A new report published by the U.S. Forest Service Rocky Mountain Research Station summarizes what we have learned from over 40 years of fire management in these areas. Drs. Molly Hunter (Northern Arizona University), Jose Iniguez (USFS Rocky Mountain Research Station), and Calvin Farris (National Park Service), who have all conducted research in these areas for many years, summarized information gleaned from the literature, analysis of fire trends, and conversations with current and retired managers from both areas. The report should be useful to any fire manger involved in the beginning or maturing stages of a resource benefit fire program.

[Download an electronic copy of the report here.](#) For hard copies, please contact Molly Hunter (molly.hunter@nau.edu) or Jose Iniguez (jiniguez@fs.fed.us)



August Webinar revisited...

We held a panel webinar on regeneration in Southwestern pine forests after high severity fire. Below are some of the references cited during the webinar. [A recording of the webinar is available on our](#)



[2015 JFSP Research Funding Opportunity](#)

Proposals due:
November 21, 2014 5pm MST

--Fuels mapping for



Learning Opportunities

Webinars:
["Is your CFLRP ready to report on the ecological indicator?"](#) 1pm MDT Jul 17th.

[website.](#)

--"[Factors influencing ponderosa pine regeneration in the Southwestern USA.](#)"

Puhlick et al. 2012.

--"[Double whammy: high severity fire and drought in ponderosa pine forests of the Southwest.](#)"

Savage et al. 2013.

--"[Managing burned landscapes: evaluating future management strategies for resilient forests under a warming climate.](#)"

Shive et al. 2014.

--"[Patterns and predictors of crown fire induced type conversion in dry conifer forests.](#)"

Haffey 2014.

emissions inventories
--Smoke hazard warning system

--Implications of changing fuels and fire regimes

--Fire ember production

--Fire effects on soil heating

--Fire weather and decision making: a social and modelling analysis

--Re-measurement: long-term fire effects on vegetation and fuels

--GRIN (various topics)

Details are available on the [JFSP website!](#)

***To obtain a letter of support for your proposal from the SWFSC, submit a completed [request form](#) by November 3rd.*

["The effectiveness of suppression resources in large fire management."](#)

12pm AZ/1pm MDT

October 8th.

Other:

Watch our newest video- ["Every Fire is an Opportunity to Treat a Landscape."](#) featuring the Slide Fire...

Perceptions of smoke with Sarah McCaffrey (title TBA), Nov 5th at 4pm AZ. *This presentation will be at the NAU School of Forestry in Flagstaff, AZ.* For more info, [click here.](#)

[Fire Stories.](#)
[Understanding Wildland Fire Behavior-](#) Help the Desert Research Institute by telling your fire story!

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- Winter 2014 Newsletter - SW Fire Science - <http://t.co/4JsdlHtzGa> 9:43AM
- RT @NWFireScience: WRDC Wildfire Conference for Extension Educators - <http://t.co/BrlcdGnuy9> 12:03PM
- RT @forestguild: Interesting tid bit... Trees & ice: Life & death in the forest ('98 was "the big one" for VT) <http://t.co/2TuOw4NGAH> 11:07AM

Contact us at: swfireconsortium@gmail.com

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