

Smorgasbord of prescribed fire

Kate Wilkin, PhD

Prescribed Fire for Private Lands

UC Berkeley's Blodgett Research Forest

May 17, 2019

Smorgasbord of prescribed fire

- Proper Protective Equipment
- Primer on Fire Behavior

Proper Protective Equipment (PPE)



Prescribed Fire on Private Lands Workshop at Sierra Foothill Research and Extension Center, June 2018

Proper Protective Equipment (PPE)



Minimum recommendations:

- ANSI Z87 eye protection
- Head protection (cotton hat or hardhat)
- Pants
- Long sleeve shirt
- All outer and inner clothes are a natural fiber (cotton, wool, or silk) or Nomex
- Leather gloves
- Leather boots without metal

Other options:

- Goggles
- Hard hat with neck shroud
- Nomex pants and shirt
- Fire shelter

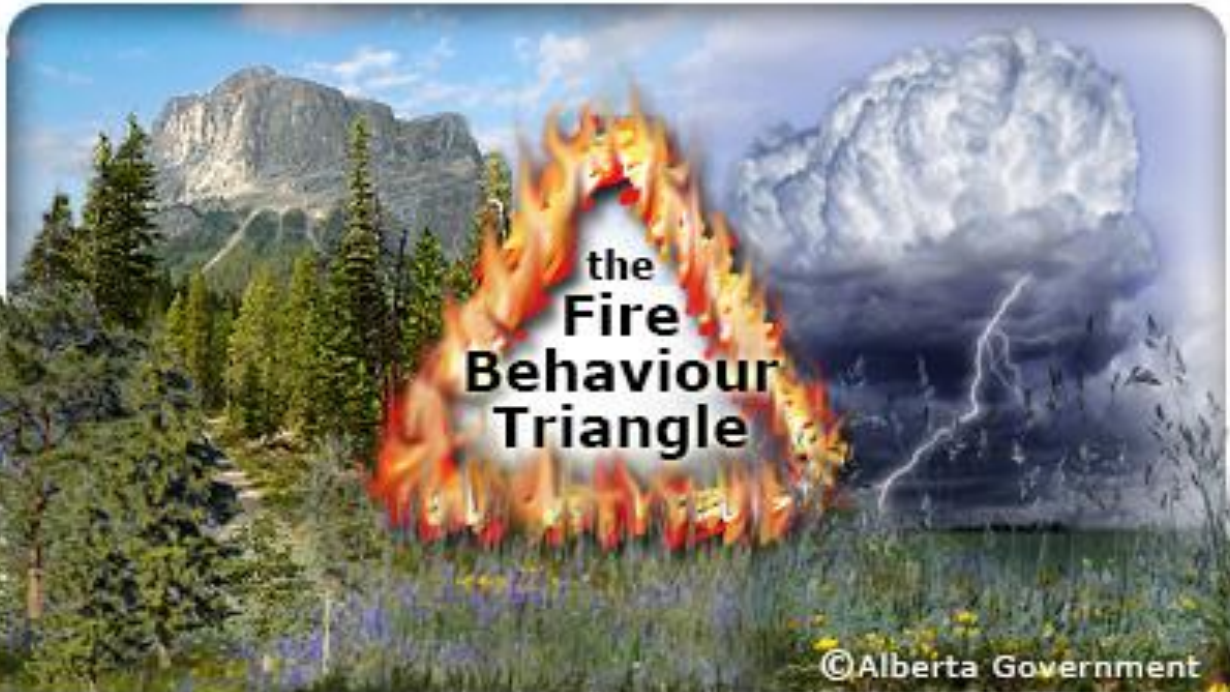
Smorgasbord of prescribed fire:

- Proper Protective Equipment
- **Primer on Fire Behavior**

What is fire?

What is fire?





Topography

- Flat or slopes
- Aspect

Weather

- Wind
- Temperature
- Relative Humidity
- Precipitation

Fuel

- Fine or Heavy
- Arrangement & continuity
- Fuel Moisture

Fires can behave very differently depending on conditions





Dead and Down Fuel Moisture



| Time lag | Fuel size |
|-----------|------------------------|
| 1-hour | < ¼ inch diameter |
| 10-hour | ¼ to 1 inch diameter |
| 100-hour | 1 to 3 inches diameter |
| 1000-hour | 3 to 8 inches diameter |

Fire behavior models

13 Anderson Fuel Models

Grass



Shrub



Timber



Logging Slash

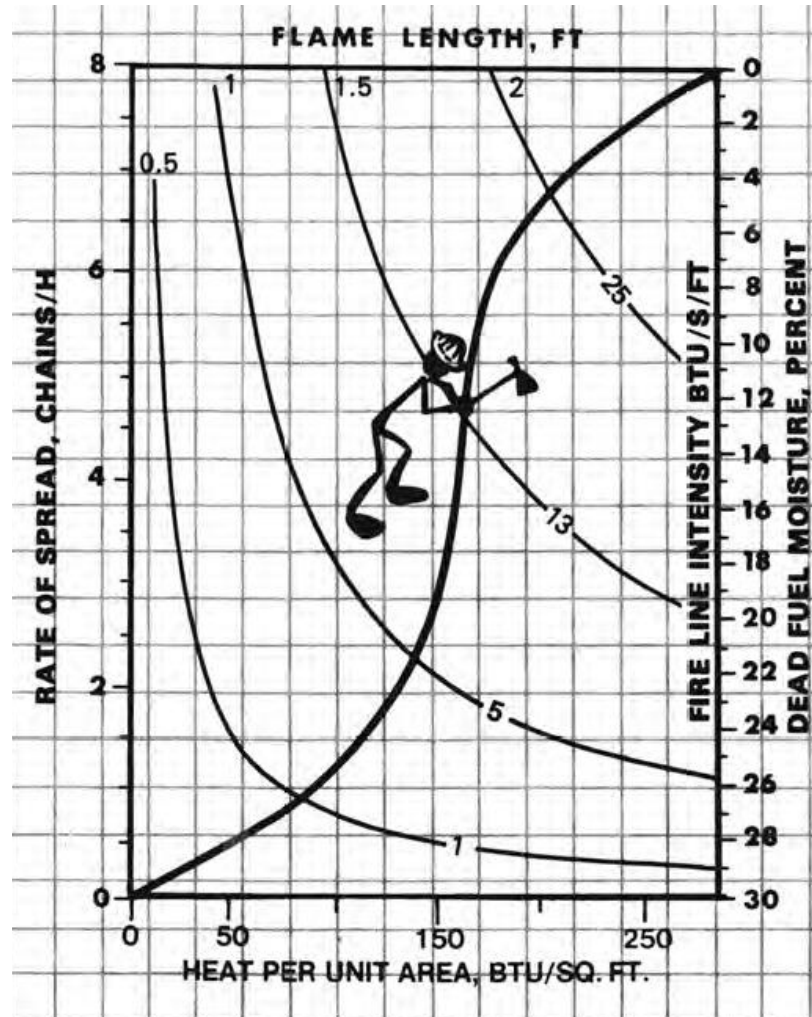


Early fire behavior models



Early fire behavior models

Low wind speed



Fire Behavior Models

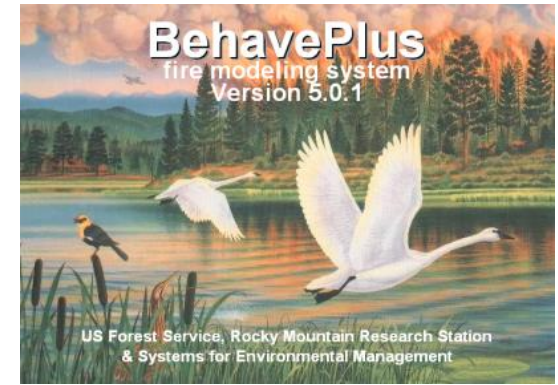
How will the fire behave given uniform conditions?

- Intensity
- Rate of spread
- Flame length
- Spotting distance
- Probability of ignition from firebrands

What are the expected fire effects?

- Fuel consumption
- Tree mortality
- Smoke produced

How will the fire behave given realistic conditions?



Spring, 24% fuel moisture



BehavePlus 6.0.0 - [unnamed01.bpr]

File Calculate View Configure Pages Windows Tools Help



BehavePlus 6.0.0

Fri, May 17, 2019 at 14:13:33

my backyard

Head Fire

Surface Fire Rate of Spread (ch/h)

| Midflame Wind Speed mi/h | Slope Steepness % | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| | 0 | 10 | 20 | 30 | 40 | 50 |
| 0 | 0.7 | 0.8 | 1.1 | 1.7 | 2.4 | 3.4 |
| 10 | 22.1 | 22.2 | 22.5 | 23.1 | 23.8 | 24.8 |
| 20 | 71.2 | 71.3 | 71.7 | 72.2 | 73.0 | 74.0 |
| 30 | 85.0 | 85.0 | 85.0 | 85.0 | 85.0 | 85.0 |
| 40 | 85.0 | 85.0 | 85.0 | 85.0 | 85.0 | 85.0 |

Spring, 24% fuel moisture



BehavePlus 6.0.0 - [unnamed01.bpr]

File Calculate View Configure Pages Windows Tools Help



BehavePlus 6.0.0

Fri, May 17, 2019 at 14:21:33

Page 3

my backyard

Head Fire

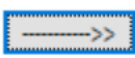
Surface Fire Flame Length (ft)

| Midflame Wind Speed mi/h | Slope Steepness % | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | 0 | 10 | 20 | 30 | 40 | 50 |
| 0 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.3 |
| 10 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 |
| 20 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 |
| 30 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 |
| 40 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 |

Desired Fire effects

- Tree mortality
- Fuel consumption

ABAM - Abies amabilis -- Pacific silver fir



Flame Length

Scorch Height

10

Low Fire Severity

Post Fire Injury

FFI File C:\Users\wilinkate\AppData\Local\FOFEM6.3.1\FFI_Sample.FFI

Plot TESTFOREST1_::_PreBum

Close

Load All 0 Errors

| | Species ▲ | Density | DBH | Height | C/R | Graph |
|---|-----------|---------|-----|--------|-----|-------------------------------------|
| | PIPO | 10.0 | 40 | 100 | 6 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| | PIPO | 10.0 | 10 | 80 | 5 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| | PIPO | 10.0 | 5 | 20 | 6 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| | QUKE | 30 | 12 | 30 | 6 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| ▶ | QUKE | 5 | 80 | 70 | 9 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| * | | | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |

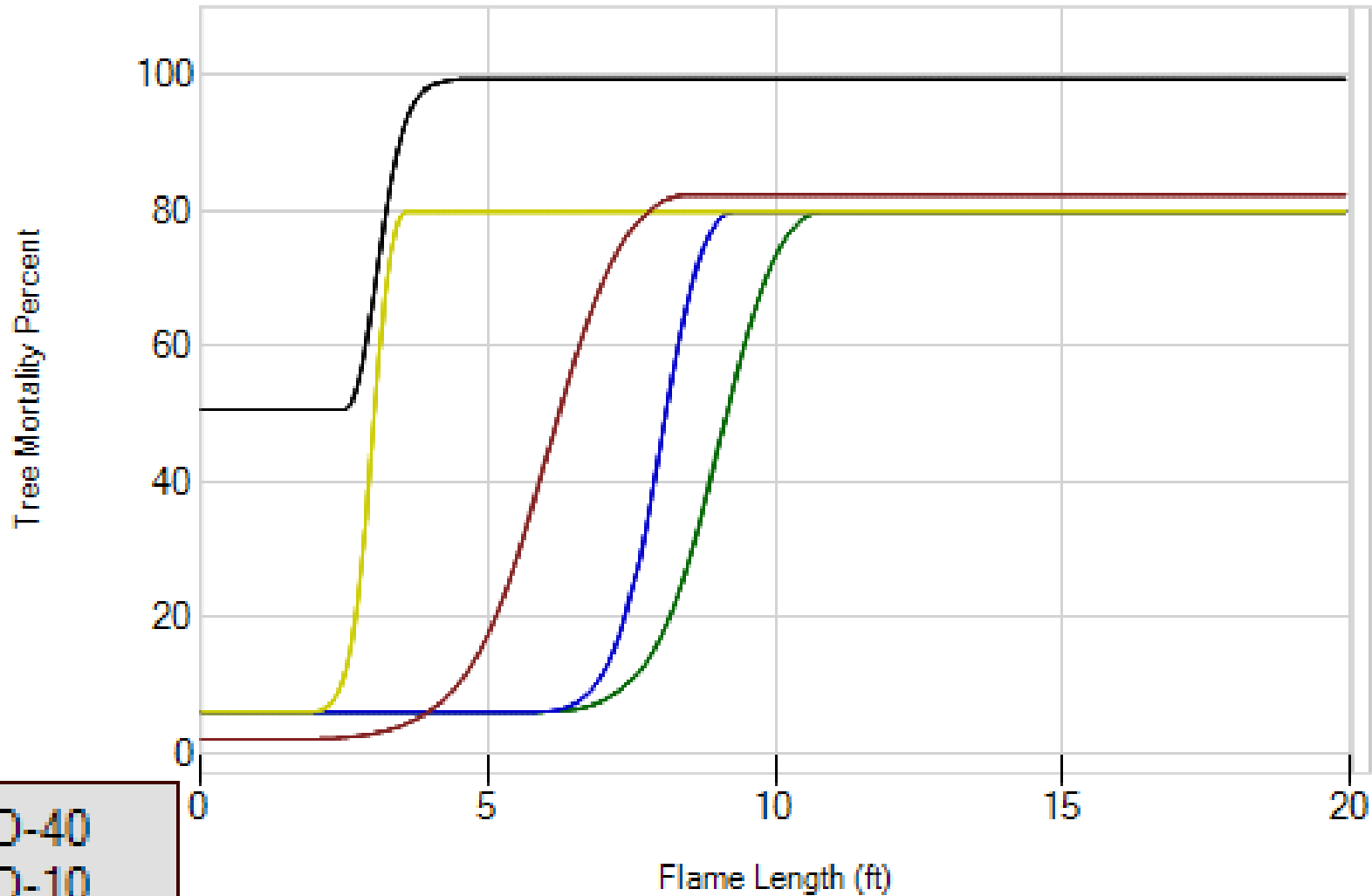
Reports

Mortality

Clear Report

Report Totals

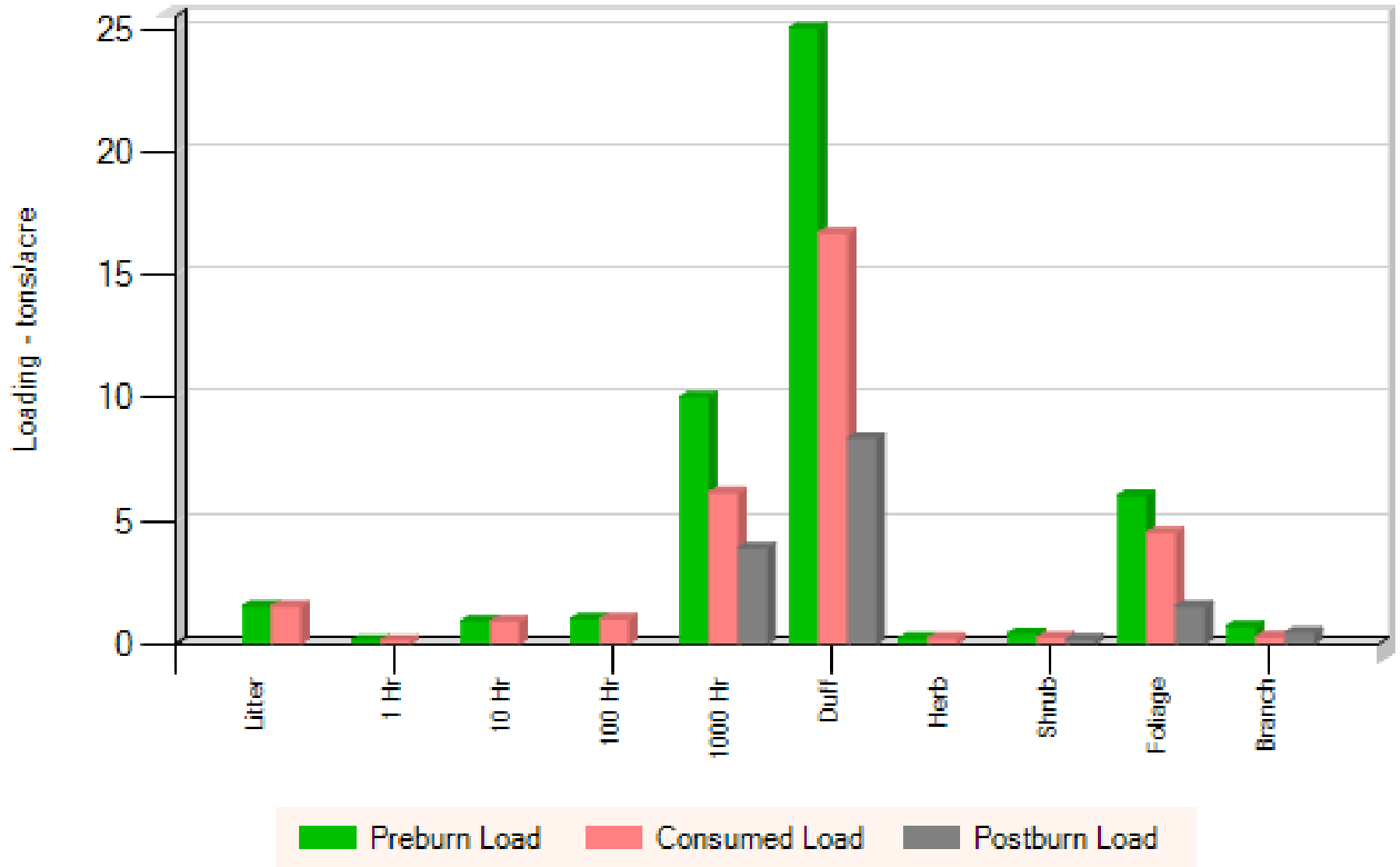
Tree Mortality



- 1-PIPO-40
- 2-PIPO-10
- 3-PIPO-5
- 4-QUKE-12
- 5-QUKE-80

PIPO = Ponderosa Pine
QUKE = Black Oak

Preburn, Consumed and Postburn Fuel Loading



Preburn, Consumed and Postburn Fuel Loading

