

WILDFIRES, CLIMATE CHANGE AND INVASIVE SPECIES CONFERENCE AGENDA
(As of October 28th, 2024)

Virtual Event Date: November 19th, 2024, Times are displayed in Eastern Standard Time

WELCOME

- 11:00 am** **Welcome Address**
- 11:10 am** **Indigenous Welcome and Land Acknowledgement**
Joe Gilchrist, Elder Firekeeper (Skeetchestn Indian Band)
- 11:20 am** **Keynote Address**
Indigenous Fire Stewardship
Dr. Amy Cardinal Christianson, Policy Advisor, Indigenous Leadership Initiative

BROAD PERSPECTIVES – WILDFIRE, CLIMATE CHANGE AND INVASIVE SPECIES

- 12:00 pm** **Climate Change and Wildfires in Canada – A Hot and Smoky Future?**
Dr. Mike Flannigan, BC Innovation Research Chair in Predictive Services, Emergency Management and Fire Science, Faculty of Science, Thompson Rivers University
- 12:30 pm** **The Impacts of Climate Change on Ontario's Boreal Forest, Fire, and Invasive Species**
Dr. Hiromitsu Sato, Researcher, Ontario Forest Research Institute, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
Stephen J. Mayor, Researcher, Ontario Forest Research Institute, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
- 12:50 pm** **Shifting Fire Regimes in Northern Canada and Associated Vegetation Changes**
Ellen Whitman, Forest Fire Research Scientist, Natural Resources Canada
- 1:10 pm** **Rethinking Invasive Species Prevention and EDRR Associated with Wildland Fire Suppression Operations**
Mike Ielmini, National Invasive Species Program Leader, U.S. Forest Service

1:30 pm **BREAK**

INVASIVE SPECIES, FIRE BEHAVIOUR AND ECOLOGICAL TRANSFORMATIONS

- 1:40 pm** **Non-native Plant Invasions and Altered Fire Regimes: A National Wildland Fire and Invasive Species Management Conundrum**
Michele Crist, Landscape Ecologist, Bureau of Land Management, Fire and Aviation Directorate National Interagency Fire Center
- 2:00 pm** **Consequences of Invasive Grasses and Wildfire on Carbon Storage**
Chelsea Nagy, Research Scientist, University of Colorado Boulder
- 2:20 pm** **Post-fire Vulnerability of Boreal Ecosystems to Non-native Plant Invasion in the Northwest Territories**
Claire Singer, Wildlife Biologist (Biodiversity), Government of the Northwest Territories/PhD candidate, Saint Mary's University

* Times are displayed in Eastern Standard Time

2:40 pm **Building Consistent and Proactive Invasive Species Policy and Management.**
Dr. Evelyn Beury, Assistant Curator, Centre for Conservation & Restoration Ecology, The New York Botanical Garden

3:00 pm **LUNCH/BREAK**

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Session 1: Restoration and Plant Recovery Post Fire	Session 2: Regional Case Studies - Fire Behaviour and Risk Mitigation
<p>3:20 pm Restoration to Increase Forest Diversity and Stall Grass-fire Cycles in Hawai'i</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Stephanie Yelenik, Research Rangeland Scientist, US Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station</i> • <i>Corie Yanger, Program Manager, Three Mountain Alliance</i> • <i>Michala Phillips, Research Ecologist, US Geological Survey</i> • <i>Sierra McDaniel, Botanist, National Park Service, Hawaii Volcanoes National Park</i> • <i>Jonah Kuwahara-Hu, Research Technician, Hawaii Cooperative Studies Unit</i> 	<p>3:20 pm Targeted Grazing: Plant and Animal Interactions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Amanda Miller, Senior Conservation Policy Analyst, Government of British Columbia</i>
<p>3:35 pm The Importance of Biocontrol in a Post-Fire Integrated Weed Management Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Jennifer Andreas, Professor, Washington State University</i> • <i>Joseph Milan, Biological Control Specialist, Bureau of Land Management</i> 	<p>3:35 pm Quantifying the Impacts of Mountain Pine Beetle on Fire Fuels Prior to the Jasper Complex Fire Using Field and Airborne Lidar Data.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Dr. Laura Chasmer, Associate Professor, University of Lethbridge</i>
<p>3:50 pm Vegetation Trajectories of Post-wildfire Landscapes on Previously Invaded and Uninvaded Areas Across Differing Burn Severities in the Interior of British Columbia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Virginia Oeggerli, Forestry MSc Student, University of British Columbia</i> 	<p>3:50 pm The Impacts of Eastern Spruce Budworm Defoliation on Wildfire Behaviour</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Kennedy Korkola, PhD Candidate, Wildfire Analytics team, University of Toronto</i>
<p>4:05 pm Q AND A</p>	<p>4:05 pm Q AND A</p>

* Times are displayed in Eastern Standard Time

4:20 pm **BREAK**

Wildfire Management and Invasive Species Strategies

4:30 pm **Increasing Scale of Burn Severity and its Ecological Consequences**
Robert W. Gray, Wildland Fire Ecologist, R.W. Gray Consulting, Ltd.

4:50 pm **Improving Invasive Plant Prevention and Management Within Wildfire Recovery and Prescribed Fire Programs in British Columbia**
Crystal Chadburn, PAg, Senior Invasive Plant Specialist, BC Ministry of Forests
Kyle Miller, RFT, Provincial Wildfire Rehabilitation Lead, BC Wildfire Service

5:20 pm **Targeted Grazing for Ecological Management and Fire Fuel Mitigation**
Jenya Schneider, Owner-Operator, Cuyama Lamb LLC

5:40 pm **Fire, Invasive Plants and the Influence of Biological Control on Both in Florida's Everglades**
Dr. Melissa Smith, Research Ecologist, USDA-Agricultural Research Service, Invasive Plant Research Laboratory

WRAP-UP AND ADJOURN

6:00 pm **Next Steps and Call to Action**

6:20 pm **Adjourn**