

Hello,

Please join us for our quarterly meeting of the Fire and Resource Assessment Steering Committee (FRASC) in preparation for the 2015 Assessment of California Forests and Rangelands. **The meeting topic is “The Challenges of California Wildfire: Balancing ecological needs with societal demands” and it will be held on Thursday, April 4th, 2013.**

Our 2010 Assessment examined wildfire as a threat to ecosystem health and community wellbeing. We focused on three analyses: preventing wildfire threats to maintain ecosystem health, restoring wildfire-impacted areas to maintain ecosystem health, and preventing wildfire threats for community safety. These analyses were risk assessments and regarded wildfire primarily as a threat.

In the 2015 Assessment of Forest and Rangelands, we plan to address a number of critical issues for wildland fire management, including the wildland-urban Interface (WUI), fire-induced vegetation type conversions, changes in forest structure and function resulting from modern fire regimes, the influence of climate change on how much fire, and what type of fire, we can expect in the future, and what all of these issues bode for vegetation, habitat, and the people that live here. We also hope to develop a more nuanced understanding of wildfire as not just a threat, but as a potential agent of benefit as well.

We invite you to participate in a discussion and share with us your ideas and concerns about the challenges of California wildfire. This discussion will kick off our attempt to frame a sound scientific basis for forming policy that sustains ecosystems and protects people from natural threats. We have a distinguished panel of fire scientists to help us explore these issues:

- **Jon E. Keeley** – *Research ecologist with the U.S. Geological Survey and Adjunct Full Professor, Dept. of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, UCLA*
- **Chris Dicus** – *Professor of Wildland Fire and Fuels Management, California Polytechnic State University*
- **Scott Stephens** – *Professor of Fire Sciences, University of California, Berkeley*

For background about the upcoming meeting, the assessment processes, or FRASC, please see our website: <http://frap.fire.ca.gov/frasc.html>.

The meeting will be held in Davis, California:
9:00 - 12:00 on Thursday, April 4th, 2013
Room #229, USDA Lyng Service Center
430 G Street,
Davis, CA
([map](#))

The meeting will also be available via webinar: [click here to register](#)

We hope you are able to attend and we look forward to hearing what you have to say. Please suggest this meeting to friends and colleagues you think may be interested. RSVPs to kelly.larvie@fire.ca.gov are greatly appreciated by Thursday, March 28th.

See you there!

FRASC meetings take place on a quarterly basis and serve as a forum for participants to provide input on a broad array of issues affecting forests and rangelands across California. In addition to providing input into our next assessment your participation will help inform and improve collaboration on the management of forest and rangeland resources.