

THE ECOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE
OF MIXED-SEVERITY FIRES
NATURE'S PHOENIX

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AUDIENCE

Ecologists, environmentalists,
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The Ecological Importance of Mixed-Severity Fires

Nature's Phoenix

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Explores the ecological importance of mixed- and high-severity fires so as to stimulate discussion on the impact of wildfire

- Offers the first reference written on mixed- and high-severity fires and their relevance for biodiversity
- Contains a broad synthesis of the ecology of mixed- and high-severity fires covering such topics as vegetation, birds, mammals, insects, aquatics, and management actions
- Explores the conservation vs. public controversy issues around megafires as an important ecosystem process

The Ecological Importance of Mixed-Severity Fires, presents needed information on the current paradigm shift to move beyond fear-based fire suppression responses to appropriate use of wildland fires, including severe ones, in maintaining pyro-diversity.

While much of the current forest management in fire-adapted ecosystems, especially forests, is focused on fire prevention and suppression, recent fire ecology science shows that mixed- and high-severity fires produce unique biological pulses on par with the richness of much heralded old-growth forests and threatened by intensive pre- and post-fire suppression. Little has been presented in previous books on the importance of mixed- and high-severity fire with regard to the maintenance of native biodiversity and fire-dependent ecosystems and species, and this text fills that void. While it focuses mostly on montane forests of the western United States, it also includes case studies written by more than 25 of the world's foremost fire ecologists of fire-dependent grasslands, chaparral, and forests from Central Europe, South-eastern Australia, boreal Canada, and sub-Saharan Africa to offer a global perspective.

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