Speaker Biosketches

(in alphabetical order)

John T. Abatzoglou, Associate Professor in Management of Complex Systems, School of Engineering, at University of California Merced.

John's research addresses questions on climate variability, with the goals of understanding climate impacts on natural resources and to develop climate datasets and tools. His lab works to better connect climate information and science to a variety of disciplines and improve the accessibility of climate information to assist decision-makers and other scientists, as well as to better communicate the importance of climate variability to the general public. As examples, Climate Toolbox is a collection of climate visualization tools for mapping past, present, and future climate scenarios in the U.S., and ClimateEngine.org is a web application that rapidly accesses and visualizes climate and remotely-sensed datasets using the Google Earth Engine.

Nikki E. Cooley, Co-Manager, Institute for Tribal Environmental Professional's (ITEP) Tribal Climate Change Program.

Nikki is of the Diné Nation and is of the Towering House Clan, born for the Reed People Clan, maternal grandfathers are of the Water that Flows Together Clan, and paternal grandfathers are of the Manygoats Clan. Nikki is part of the ITEP team, whose goal is to strengthen tribal capacity and sovereignty in environmental and natural resource management through culturally relevant education, research, partnerships and policy-based services. As the ITEP's climate-change program co-manager, she works with tribes across the continental U.S. and Alaska on climate-change adaptation, mitigation and resilience plans. Prior to ITEP, Nikki worked with the Merriam-Powell Center for Environmental Research at Northern Arizona University on a Climate Change Education Program. She was Associate Director of the Native Voices Program, which focused on creating documentaries about social and political issues of indigenous peoples.

Michele R. Crist, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Fire and Aviation, National Interagency Fire Center, Boise, Idaho.

As a landscape ecologist for the BLM's Fire Planning and Fuels Management Division, Michele focuses her fire science on developing landscape-scale modeling frameworks and restoration/conservation strategies for sagebrush lands, forests, and wildlife habitats. Michele works with federal and state agencies to help develop science-based land management goals and prioritize conservation and restoration strategies, and to assesses the impacts of existing or proposed land management on ecological resources and wildlife habitats. Her work also informs managers as to where fire is needed to restore forests and where treatments should be located to protect human communities from wildfire. She was lead editor on the Science Framework for Conservation and Restoration of the Sagebrush Biome Part Two and authored a fire risk assessment for sage grouse breeding habitat. Michele volunteers her time on the National Audubon Society's Board as the Central-North Flyway Director and is a Past-President of the Golden Eagle Audubon Society.

Carolyn A. Enquist, U.S. Geological Survey, Deputy Director of the Southwest Climate Adaptation Science Center, Tucson and Adjunct Assistant Professor in the School of Natural Resources, University of Arizona

For over two decades, Carolyn has worked at the nexus of science and practice with positions at the National Wildlife Federation, the National Park Service, the Forest Service, The Nature Conservancy, The Wildlife Society and the USA National Phenology Network. She has largely focused on management implications of climate change for biodiversity conservation. She has both led and contributed to numerous peer-reviewed articles and national reports focused on the biodiversity impacts of climate change, practical guidance for conducting vulnerability assessments, and the practice of climate adaptation planning and implementation. She currently serves as a Lead Author on the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Working Group 2 AR6 report, which addresses climate-change impacts, adaptations, and vulnerability. As part of this work, she maintains a keen interest in understanding and supporting the human dimensions of climate adaptation.

Lenya Quinn-Davidson, University of California (UC), Agriculture and Natural Resources, Area Fire Advisor, Humboldt County, CA.

Lenya is Director of the Northern California Prescribed Fire Council and a Research Associate of the UC Cooperative Extension. Her fire-related interests include cultural burning, forest and watershed management, fuel treatment and economics, and wildfire risk assessment. Lenya is a member liaison of the Fire Adapted Community Learning Network, where she works to coordinate their prescribed fire-training exchange program. She has co-published on invasive vegetation control and encroachment in a variety of coastal and arid-land habitats and on short-term emergency responses and long-term ecological actions of post-fire management. She co-authored the North Coast Regional Report for California's Fourth Climate Assessment (2018).

Hugh D. Safford, Regional Ecologist for the USDA-Forest Service's Pacific Southwest Region and Research Faculty in the Department of Environmental Science and Policy, University of California Davis.

Hugh manages a unit of U.S. Forest Service ecologists that provides expertise in vegetation, fire, and restoration ecology, and climate change inventory, and monitoring to the 18 National Forests in the Pacific Southwest Region. His lab at UC-Davis is focused on applied ecological support to resource and fire management in California, neighboring states, and other Mediterranean climate regions. He is director of the Sierra Nevada section of the California Fire Science Consortium, co-chair of the California Research Natural Areas committee, and serves on science advisory boards for national environmental collaboratives and NGOs. Safford provides international technical assistance on fire, forest management, and climate-change issues in partnership with the US-Agency for International Development and the International Program of the Forest Service. He was a fellow with the Fulbright Global Scholars Program between 2017 and 2019, where he studied post-fire ecosystem restoration practices in the Mediterranean Basin. Hugh co-edited a book in 2018 entitled *Valuing Chaparral: Ecological, Socioeconomic, and Management Perspectives*, which deals with the complicated issues surrounding management and sustainability of chaparral ecosystems in California.

Paul F. Steblein, U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), Wildland Fire Science Coordinator, Reston, VA

As the USGS Wildland Fire Science Coordinator, Paul works with over 150 scientists to produce essential information, data, and tools used by decision-makers nationwide before, during, and after wildland fires. Since 2014, he has served on the Governing Board for the Department of Interior's (DOI) Joint Fire Science Program, which provides funding for scientific studies associated with wildland fire, fuels, and fire-impacted ecosystems and that address emerging needs of land managers, practitioners, and policymakers. Paul has enjoyed tackling complex natural resource and land management issues for over 30 years from a variety of positions in the DOI, including Deputy Director of the Office of Wildland Fire and a wide variety of field, regional, and national leadership positions in the National Wildlife Refuge System.

Andrea E. Thode, Professor of Fire Ecology and Fire Science in the School of Forestry at Northern Arizona University.

Andi left the U.S Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Region, as a fire ecologist in 2005 to work at Northern Arizona University, where she is currently a professor of fire ecology and fire science. Her research focuses on fire effects, fire monitoring, and landscape-level fire severity effects. Andi is the Principal Investigator for the Southwest Fire Science Consortium and has been heavily involved in the Association for Fire Ecology since its' inception. She has led the development of Southwest FireCLIME which co-developed new tools and science to help managers make more informed decisions now to help create more desired conditions in future climates.