



Fire Effects Information System at a glance

The Fire Effects Information System (FEIS) just got a makeover! The FEIS has been supporting fire and natural resource managers since the late 1980s, and now it has moved and improved. Its new flow and functionality make it even easier to find information about individual species, ecosystems, and their relationships with fire.

What is FEIS?

The [Fire Effects Information System](#) is a publicly available, searchable website with over 1,400 comprehensive literature syntheses on fire-related topics. It is maintained by a team of ecologists, writers, and editors who pore through and synthesize thousands of publications on the biology, ecology, and fire ecology of species and ecosystems to produce evidence-based literature reviews that land managers can rely on for decision support. The team continuously writes and updates these reviews, making FEIS a dynamic resource.

Who uses FEIS?

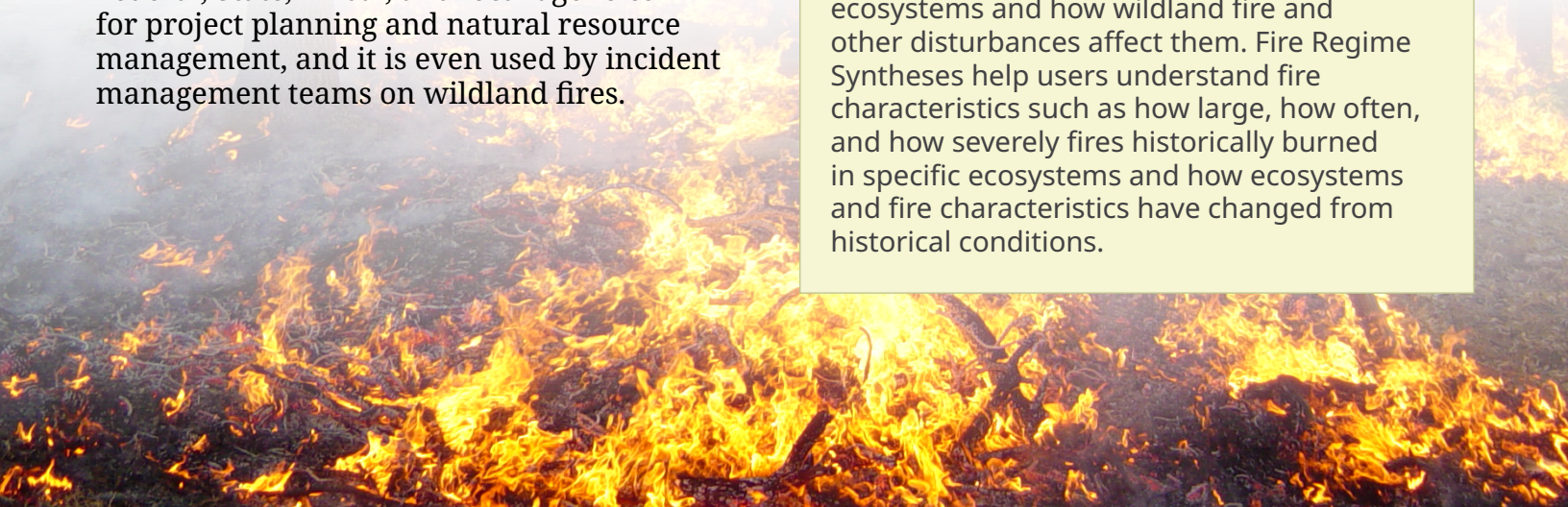
The FEIS website is a one-stop shop for anyone who needs comprehensive information on individual species, fire ecology, fire regimes, and fire's effects on plants and animals. The FEIS supports fire and natural resource managers, NEPA planners, scientists, students, and the general public. It is widely used by Federal, State, Tribal, and local agencies for project planning and natural resource management, and it is even used by incident management teams on wildland fires.

Looking Forward—FEIS is always improving

The new FEIS website makes accessing information easier than ever, and it is only the first step in a series of improvements. Users can still find FEIS publications by filtering by life form and location, and now they can also filter by taxonomy and keywords. Future enhancements will include the ability to search for species based on their ecological traits and fire adaptations, allowing for filtering by traits like bark thickness, sprouting behavior, and seed banking.

Species Reviews cover wildlife and plant species' biology and habitats, and how they may be affected by wildland fire and management. Species Reviews help users understand and plan for how species of interest will respond to fire, other disturbances, and possible threats.

Fire Regime Syntheses cover specific ecosystems and how wildland fire and other disturbances affect them. Fire Regime Syntheses help users understand fire characteristics such as how large, how often, and how severely fires historically burned in specific ecosystems and how ecosystems and fire characteristics have changed from historical conditions.



FAQs

1. How do you decide which species to add or update?

We love requests from land managers, especially when they address fire management concerns and questions. For example, we recently completed a suite of Species Reviews of plants in the Southwest and a Fire Regime Synthesis for Sonoran desert scrub communities to address the rapidly changing landscape in the Southwest.

2. Do you have information about all species and ecosystems?

The FEIS has about 1,100 Species Reviews on plants, animals, and lichens in the United States. This includes about 150 nonnative plant species, which you can find using the advanced search filter. The FEIS has information about fire regimes for all ecosystems in the United States.

3. What is the difference between Fire Regime Reports and Fire Regime Syntheses?

Fire Regime Reports include data from LANDFIRE Biophysical Settings models on historical fire frequency, severity, and distribution. Fire Regime Syntheses provide this information in addition to a synthesis of information about historical fuel and fire regime characteristics, and contemporary fuel and fire regime characteristics.

FEIS is used for many purposes



Plan prescribed fires and fuel reduction projects



Manage species of interest



Write NEPA reports and respond to public comments



Plan habitat restoration projects



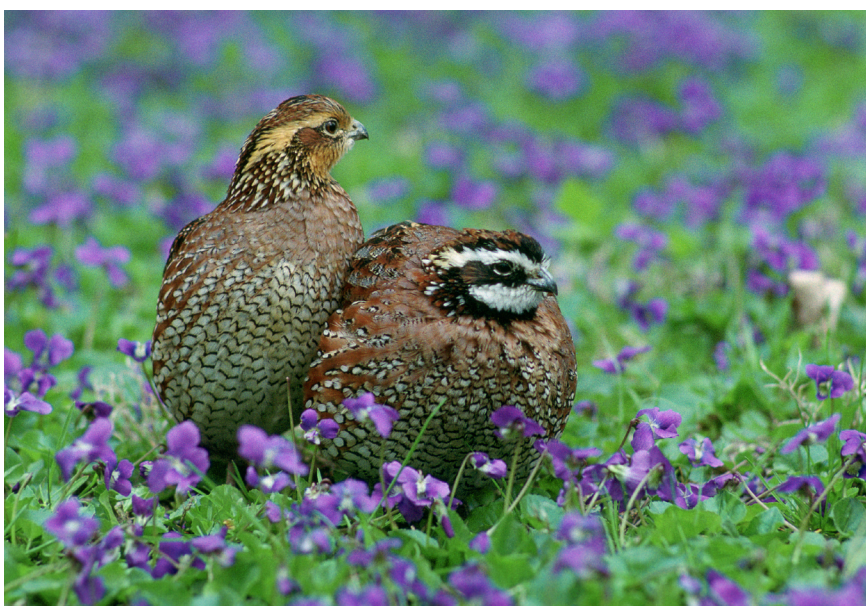
Assist with Burned Area Emergency Rehabilitation



Manage invasive plant species



Learn about general ecology



Publications in the Fire Effects Information System help land managers make decisions about implementing prescribed fires, such as the suite of Species Reviews about ground nesting birds. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service photo by Steve Maslowski. Some rights reserved (CC by 2.0 DEED).