Joint Fire Science Knowledge Exchange Consortia

Overarching Goal and Vision

Through the Joint Fire Science Program (JFSP), develop a national collaborative fire science delivery network which acts to accelerate the awareness, understanding, and adoption of wildland fire science information by federal, tribal, state, local, and private stakeholders within ecologically similar regions. For more information visit www.firescience.gov/JFSP_Consortia.cfm

Why Have Fire Science Consortiums Nationwide? "We get a fire hose of information, and it's often delivered with *the fog-nozzle on"* (Seth White PNW-GTR-599, 2004). Another often-heard phrase is *"use the best available science".* But managers often don't know what information is already available nor the quality and applicability of that research to their management plans and projects. Another problem is the research may not be integrated in a context meaningful to management. And while the research may be of the highest quality and peer-reviewed, demonstration of science findings in the field is often lacking. To help scientists and managers communicate and learn together, the Joint Fire Science Program is sponsoring Regional Fire Science Delivery consortiums.

Guiding Principles:

1. Be **inclusive**, making sure all relevant partners have the opportunity to be involved,
2. Serve as **neutral** science partners,
3. Be **customer driven**, both in how they are structured and how they function,
4. Operate **collaboratively**, fostering joint management and science communication,
5. Be **innovative**, pursuing new and creative ways to disseminate knowledge,
6. **Facilitate** the flow in fire science

Key Objectives:

1. Disseminate information and build relationships between scientists, practitioners, and managers
2. List and describe existing research and syntheses
3. Develop methods to assess the quality and applicability of research
4. Demonstrate research on the ground
5. Build place-based adaptive management partnerships that promote adoption of fire science findings by fire, fuel, and land managers
6. Develop mechanisms to assess new research, synthesis, or validation needs

Existing Regional Fire Science Delivery Consortiums

Alaska (Alaska Fire Science Consortium, http://frames.nbii.gov/alaska/consortium)
Appalachians (Consortium of Appalachian Fire Managers and Scientists, http://www.cafms.org)
California (California Fire Science Consortium)
Great Basin (Great Basin Science Delivery Project, http://greatbasin.wr.usgs.gov/gbrmp/ScienceDelivery.aspx)
Lake States (Lake States Fire Science Consortium, http://lakestatesfiresci.net)
South (Southern Fire Exchange, http://frames.nbii.gov/southern_fire_exchange)
Southern Rockies (Southern Rockies Mountain Ecoregion Science Delivery, http://www.srmeconsortium.org)
Southwest (Southwest Fire Science Consortium, http://swfireconsortium.org)

Six new consortia are in the pre-proposal phase. Needs assessments are currently being conducted in the following regions: Hawaii, Pacific Northwest, Northern Rockies, Tall Grass Prairie, Short Grass Prairie, and Oak Savannahs