

RECONSTRUCTING FIRE HISTORY IN KNOBCONE PINE

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ABSTRACT

Knobcone pine (*Pinus attenuata*) occurs in scattered stands on shallow-rocky soils from Baja California to southern Oregon. These stands are subject to high-intensity fires which destroy the trees but result in regeneration because of the serotinous cones of knobcone pine. Stand-age analysis allows one to reconstruct the fire history of these stands. Knobcone pine stands in central California were used to evaluate different sampling patterns for reconstructing fire history. Sample locations based on grids, transects, and random placement were compared. Implications for reconstructing the fire history in other forest types subject to high-intensity fires were discussed.