

Connecting Researchers and Managers



through the North Atlantic Fire Science Exchange

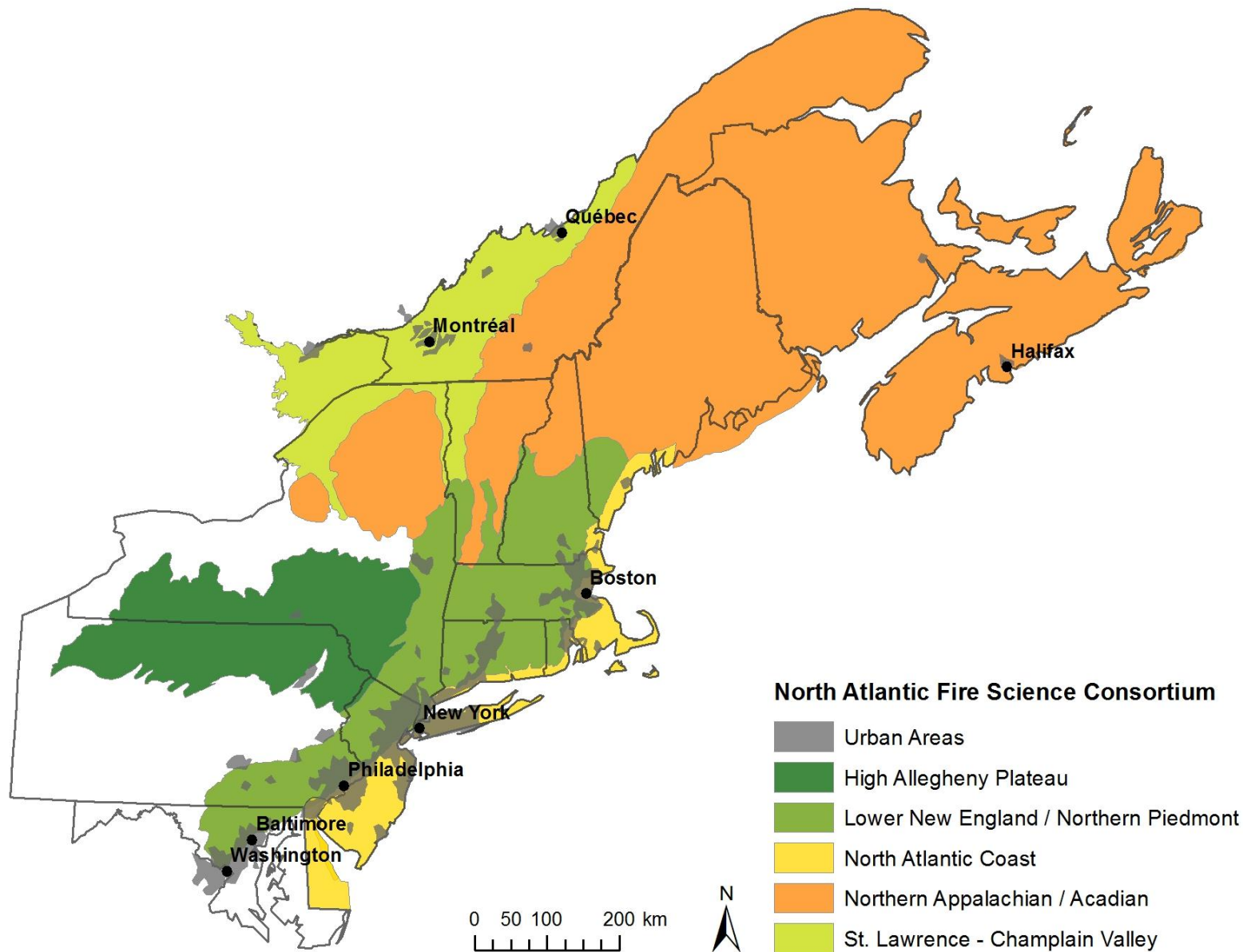


Erin Lane,
USDA Forest Service



JFSP Knowledge Exchanges





Knowledge Exchange (Consortium)

Provides a forum for networking researchers and managers on subjects relating to fire management and science



Welcome North Atlantic Fire Exchange!



Presentation Outline



- Frame the Disconnect
- Encourage a path to Collaborations
- ~~JFSP Consortia~~ Exchanges
- North Atlantic Exchange
- Vision to change conditions

Identified problem: lack of connection

- Conditions on the land are affected by lack of applicable science



“We used the best available science...”

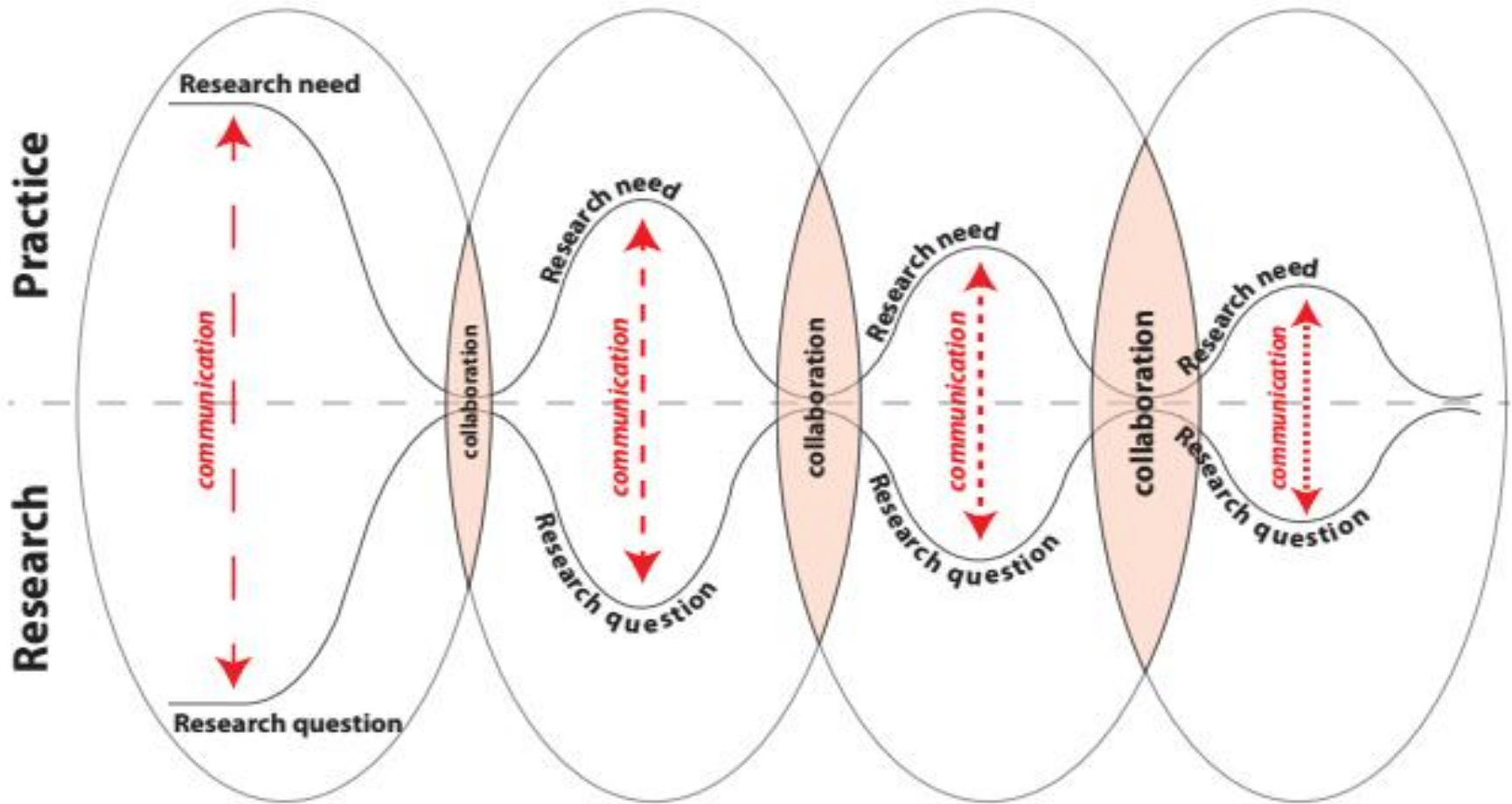


“management implications of this research...”

- Managers don't read? Managers don't understand?
- Researchers don't talk to/understand management?
- Science isn't properly delivered...
- Lack of time to make these connections?

Systems aren't set up to properly facilitate information exchange

Evolution of Collaboration



Heuristics to Collaboration



Linking Environmental Research and Practice

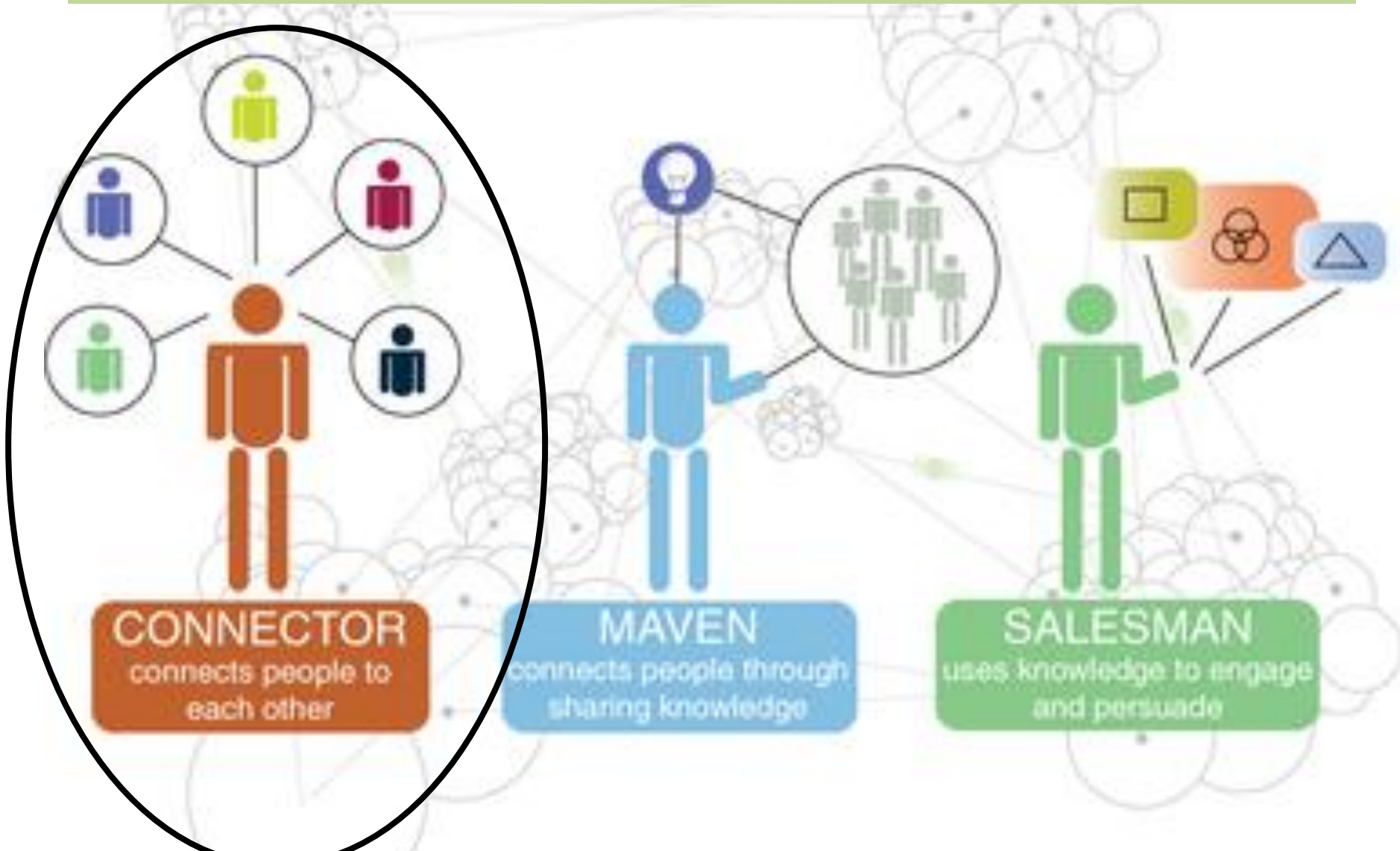
LESSONS FROM THE INTEGRATION OF CLIMATE SCIENCE AND
WATER MANAGEMENT IN THE WESTERN UNITED STATES

Daniel B. Ferguson
Jennifer L. Rice
Connie A. Woodhouse

Where it starts: Preconditioning



Information Brokers-- Connecters



Capitalize on catalyzing events



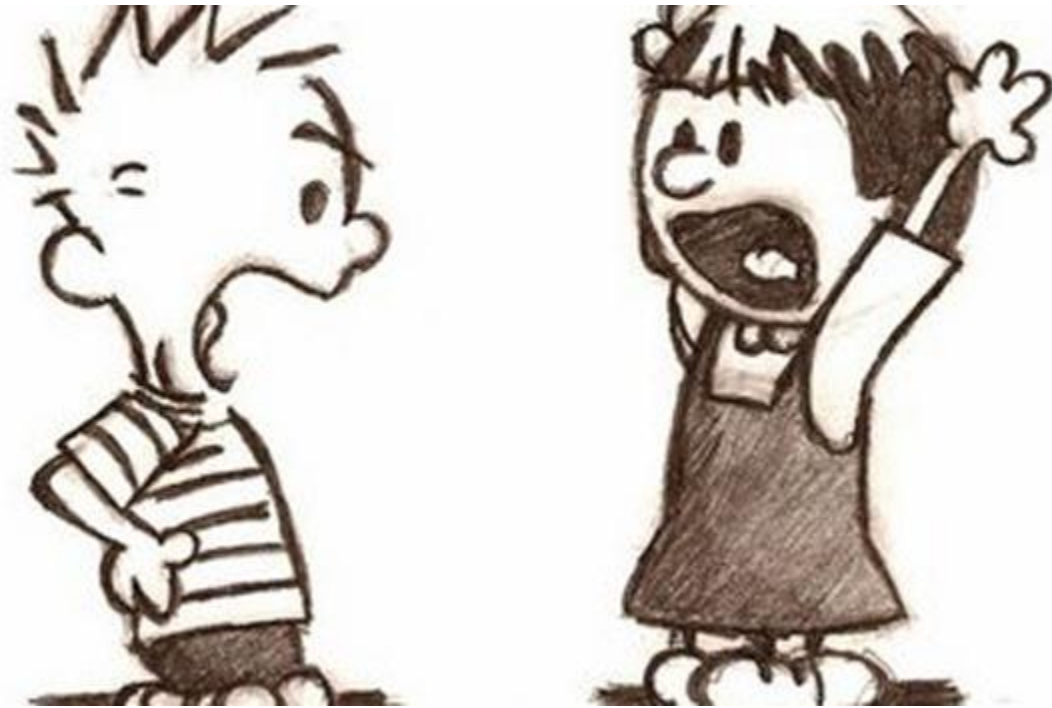
Requirement: Mutual Respect!



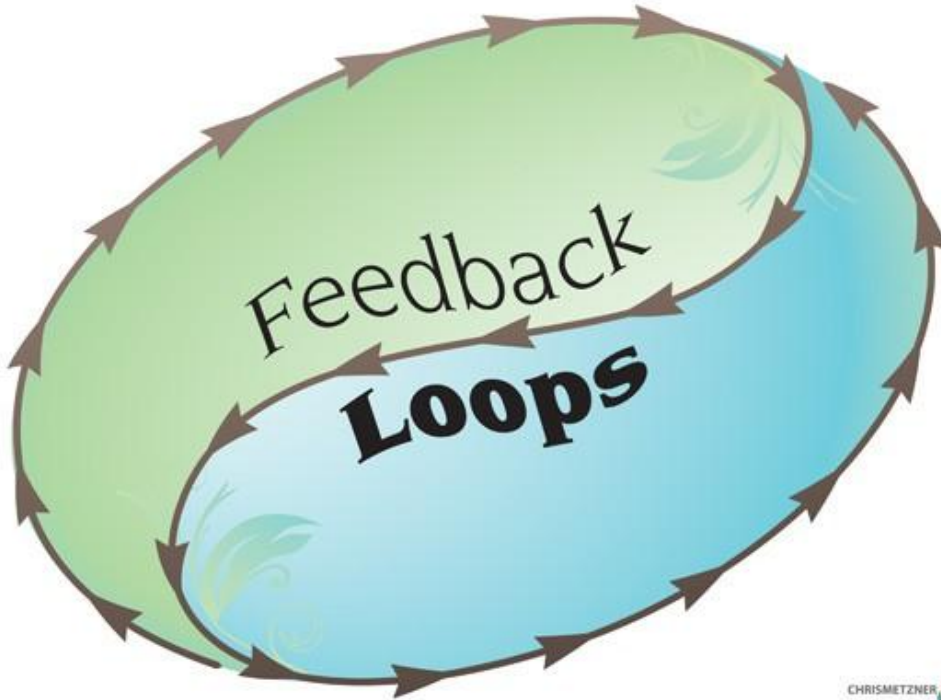
Understand context



Reduce the chance for conflict



Evaluate and Reevaluate



CHRISMETZNER.COM

Be persistent, committed,
purposeful, thoughtful



Joint Fire Science Program

The Joint Fire Science Program funds scientific research on wildland fires and distributes results to help policymakers, fire managers and practitioners make sound decisions.





Knowledge Exchange Network

Effective Knowledge Translation, Exchange, Adoption and Implementation

- correctly framing the management question or identifying a core problem based on trusted relationships
- practitioners play a key role by describing what information is needed and identifying the modes of delivery with the highest probability of success.
- translation of scientific and technical information into tools and products appropriate and usable by field managers.

Network Objectives



1. Disseminate of information and build relationships

2. Describe existing research and synthesize information

3. Develop methods to assess the quality and applicability of research



4. Demonstrate research on the ground

5. Promote adaptive management

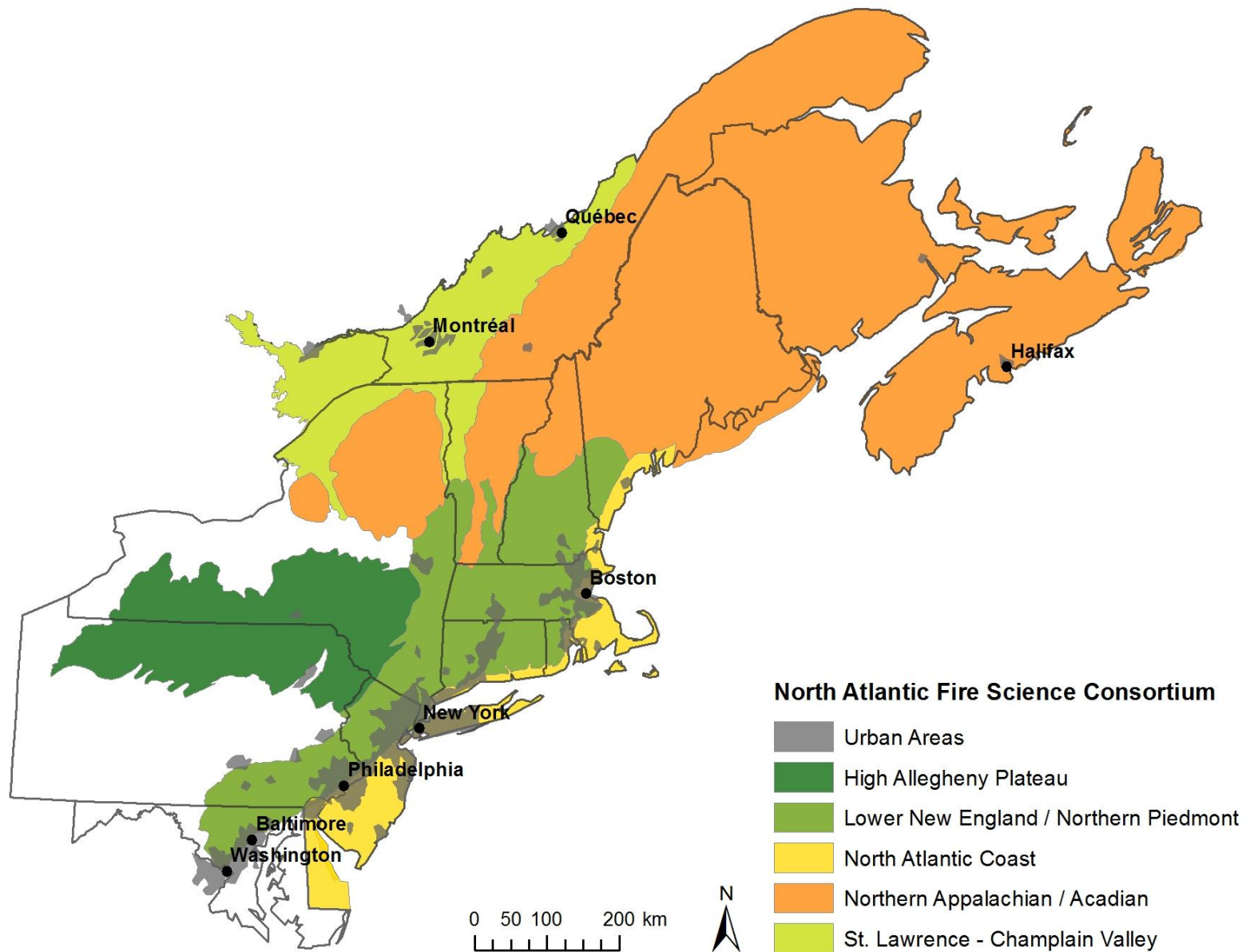
6. Discover new research, synthesis, or validation needs

North Atlantic Exchange

Focus on the Northeast's unique ecological issues and challenges of managing these systems with high population densities and diverse land ownership groups.







Catalyze: Catalyze collaboration between scientists and land managers.

Innovate:
Determine innovative solutions.

Synthesize:
Consolidate existing research and adapt science for applicability in the NAFSE region.



Communicate: Facilitate the flow of information on science and management.

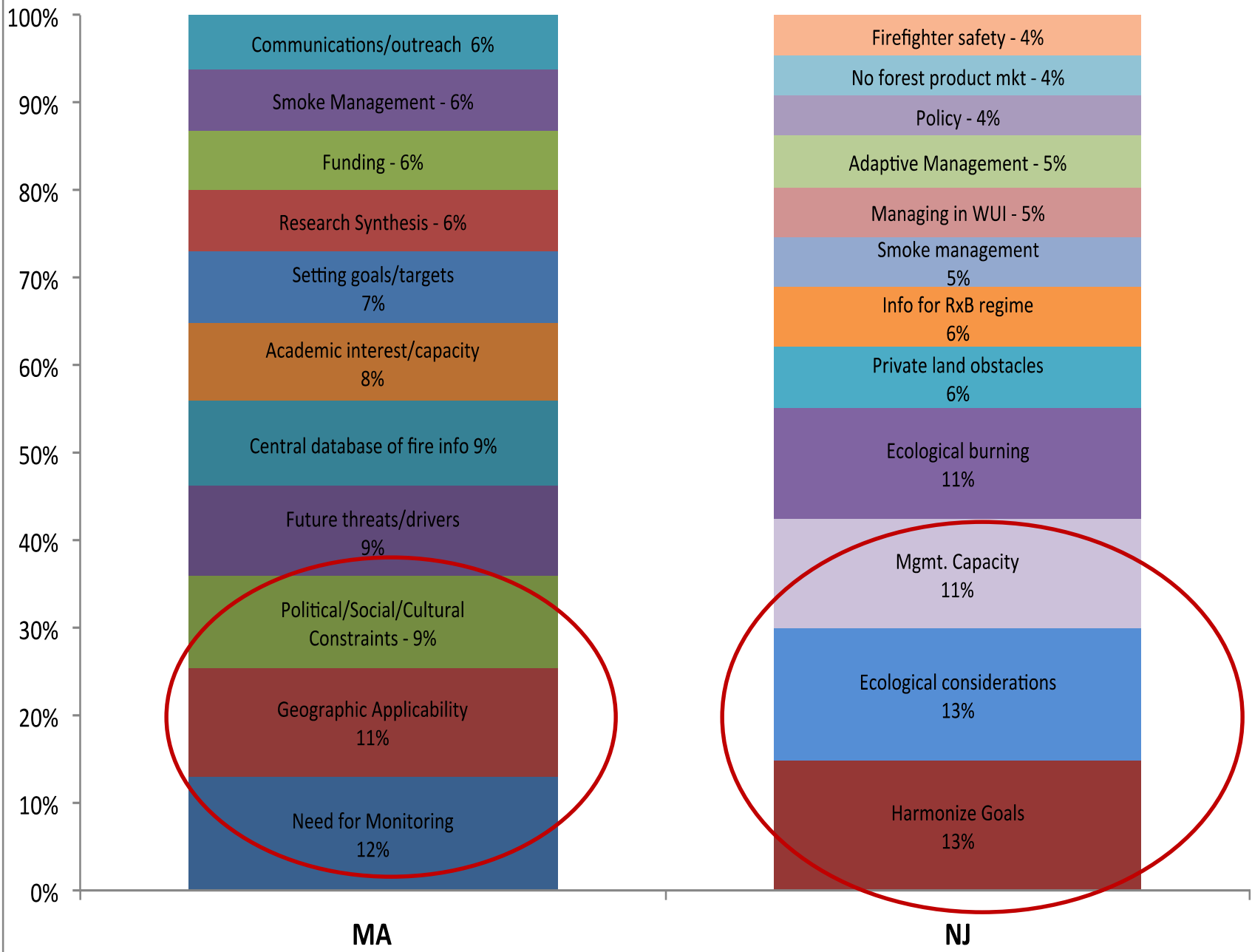
Sensing Assessment

- Mass, NJ, Interviews, Survey:
 - 1) Management challenges and research needs
 - 2) Communication/science delivery - roadblocks and effective methods
 - 3) Opportunities for collaboration

Interview: Fire Manager

- What could be done to improve the relevance of fire science for management purposes?
- Name a webinar, workshop, publication, or conference that really influenced you. What part of the experience spoke to you?
- How do you, as a manager, decide how to use fire on landscape? What sources of information do you use to set your goals and targets?
- What are the hurdles to applying science to
- management?

ground communicating
years applied
northeast based scientist sources pine
oak manager information state work workshop consortium
looking field people forest
time data burn help scientists
publication interested landscape managers
improve questions burning
influenced goals management
targets science webinar working research
fires areas
conference going
example experience



What will we do?

- Website
- Improve Research database
- Newsletters
- Research Briefs
- Webinars
- Field trips
- Capstone Workshops



Search

Northern Research Station

Home

Research Programs

- ▶ Themes
- Units
- Lands
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- Special Programs

Publications & Data

Tools & Applications

Locations

Scientists & Staff

About NRS

NRS News

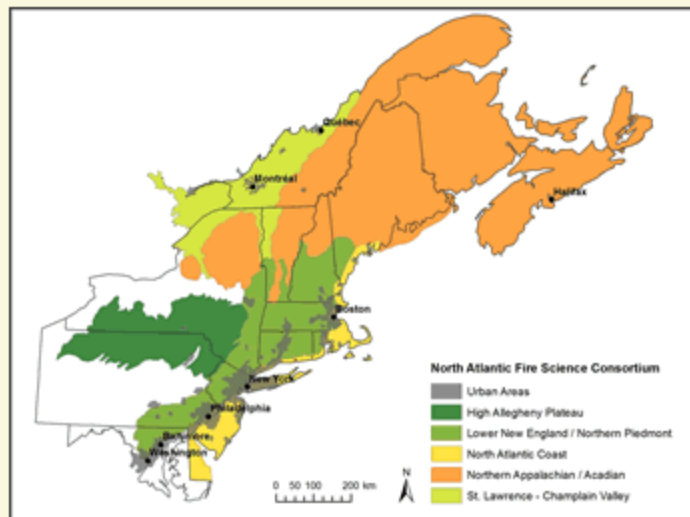
Contact Information

You are here: [NRS Home](#) / [Research Programs](#) / [Forest Disturbance Processes](#) / [Science to support the National Fire and Fuels Strategy](#) / North Atlantic Fire Science Consortium

Forest Disturbance Processes

North Atlantic Fire Science Consortium

Issue



There is a fundamental misconception that wildland fire is an insignificant disturbance in the region. In reality, research shows that fire historically played a vital role in many of the ecosystems of Northeastern United States and Southeastern

About this Research Area

Science Theme: Forest Disturbance Processes

Science Topic:

- ▶ Science to support the National Fire and Fuels Strategy

Participating Units

Theme Science Topics

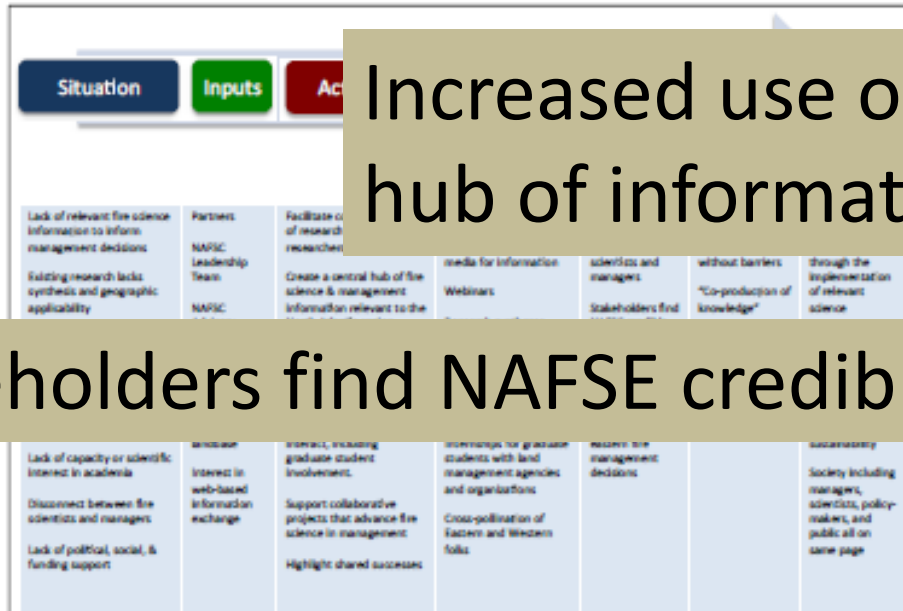
Resource

[Knowledge Exchange Consortia: Connect to Local](#)

Community Representatives

USDA Forest Service Eastern Region	Dr. Gregory Nowacki		
USDA Forest Service Northern Research Station	Dr. Kenneth Clark	University of Maine	Dr. Jessica Leahy
The Northeastern Forest Fire Protection Compact	Thomas Parent	Arcadia University	Dr. Lauren Howard
Mid-Atlantic Forest Fire Protection Compact/ New Jersey Division of Forestry/Forest Fire Service	Tom Gerber	Northeast Forest and Fire Management LLC	Joel Carlson
USDA Forest Service Northeastern Area	Maris Gabliks	University of Massachusetts Amherst	Dr. William Patterson III
Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre	John Ross	Harvard Forest	Dr. Matthew Duveneck
New Jersey Audubon Society	John Cecil		
New Hampshire Division of Forests and Lands	Brad Simpkins		
The Nature Conservancy/ Pennsylvania RxB Council	Jenny Case		
The Albany Pine Bush	Neil Gifford		

Intended Outcomes



Increased use of NAFSE as a hub of information

Stakeholders find NAFSE credible and relevant

Increased adoption of existing products in fire management decisions

Intended Outcomes-- Medium

Scientists and managers communicating without barriers

“co-production of knowledge”

management decisions Existing research lacks synthesis and geographic applicability	NAPSC Leadership Team NAPSC	researchers Create a central hub of the science & management information relevant to the	Website and social media for information Webinars	as hub for fire scientists and managers Stakeholders find	communicating without barriers “Co-production of knowledge”	managed through the implementation of relevant science
Lack of capacity or scientific interest in academics Disconnect between fire scientists and managers Lack of political, social, & funding support	increase interest in web-based information exchange	workshop, involving graduate student involvement. Support collaborative projects that advance fire science in management Highlight shared successes	workshops for graduate students with land management agencies and organizations Cross-pollination of Eastern and Western folks	resources for management decisions		successfully society including managers, scientists, policy-makers, and public all on same page

Fire appropriately perceived for our landscape

Intended Outcomes- Long

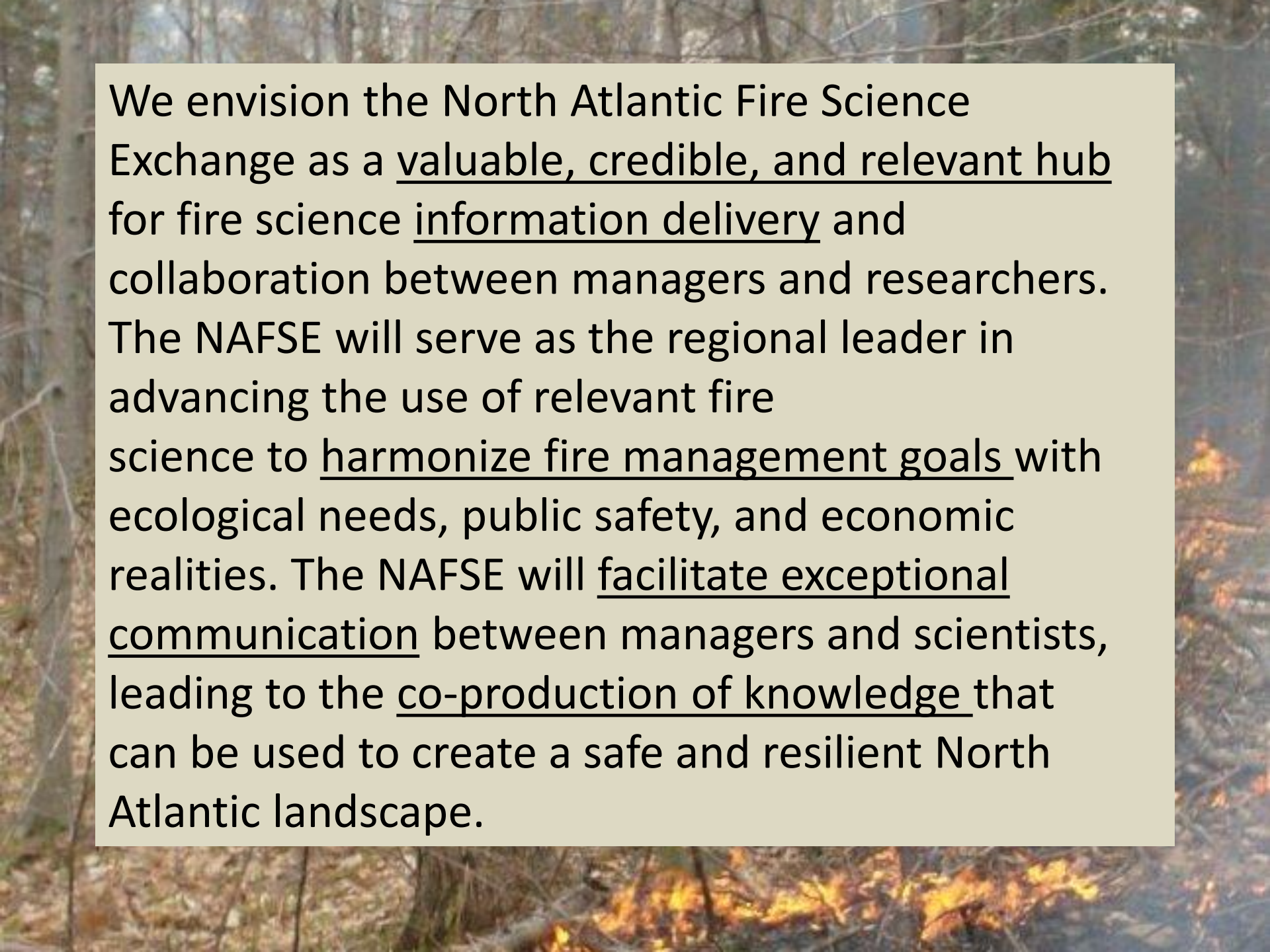
Landscape intelligently managed through implementation of relevant science

management decisions Editing research lacks synthesis and geographic applicability	NAFSC Leadership Team NAFSC	researchers Create a central hub of the science & management information relevant to the	Website and social media for information Webinars	as hub for fire scientists and managers Stakeholders find	communicating without barriers "Co-production of knowledge"	managed through the implementation of relevant science
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Harmonized management goals with balance of ecological needs, public safety, and economic sustainability

Figure 2. Logic model for the North Atlantic Fire Science Consortium

Society (including managers, scientists, policy makers, and public) are all on the same page

The background of the slide is a photograph of a forest. In the foreground, there are thin, bare tree trunks and branches. In the mid-ground, there are some trees with yellow and orange autumn leaves. In the background, a fire is visible, with bright orange and yellow flames rising from the ground. The overall scene is a mix of natural forest elements and a controlled fire.

We envision the North Atlantic Fire Science Exchange as a valuable, credible, and relevant hub for fire science information delivery and collaboration between managers and researchers. The NAFSE will serve as the regional leader in advancing the use of relevant fire science to harmonize fire management goals with ecological needs, public safety, and economic realities. The NAFSE will facilitate exceptional communication between managers and scientists, leading to the co-production of knowledge that can be used to create a safe and resilient North Atlantic landscape.

- Historic Fires
- Risk Management and Multiple Disturbances in a Changing Climate
 - Fire and the Natural Resource and Utilities Sectors
 - Society and Fire
 - Accountability

How do you make successful collaboration happen?

A photograph of a forest fire. Bright orange and yellow flames are visible, consuming dry brush and small trees. The background shows a dense forest of taller trees, some of which are partially obscured by smoke. The overall scene is hazy and smoky. A semi-transparent yellow rectangular box is overlaid on the upper right portion of the image, containing the text "What will you do?".

What will you do?

- Reach Out (cross-discipline interactions)
- Increase opportunity for preconditioning
- Learn about systems
- Become a member of the NAFSE or associated
- Consider cross-border exchange

NAFSE Team

Principal Investigator

Nick Skowronski, Ph. D.

Research Forester

USDA Forest Service

Northern Research Station

Coordinator

Erin Lane

US Forest Service

Northern Research Station

Science Communications

Director

Inga P. La Puma, Ph.D.

Rutgers University

Project Manager

Amanda Mahaffey

Northeast Director

Forest Guild

“Never underestimate the power of a small group of committed people to change the world. In fact, it is the only thing that ever has.” ~ Margaret Mead