



## Stanford Experts on Wildfires

*Stanford scholars with expertise on wildfire drivers, impacts and other related issues are available to comment for coverage of the ongoing wildfires in California. For assistance locating experts, contact Rob Jordan at the Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment: [rjordan@stanford.edu](mailto:rjordan@stanford.edu), (415) 760-8048.*

### Fire and Climate

#### [Benjamin Bryant](#)

Bryant, a postdoctoral research fellow at Stanford, is an economist and decision support modeler with a joint affiliation between Stanford's Water in the West program and the Natural Capital Project. He has studied how risks from wildfire depend on the interaction of climate change and the way California manages growth and land use. He currently focuses on understanding how forest management to mitigate wildfire risk provides a range of other benefits, such as clean and reliable water supplies, and helping the state meet its greenhouse gas reduction targets.

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#### [Noah Diffenbaugh](#)

Noah Diffenbaugh is an expert on the climate system and understanding the influence of climate change on extreme events, including wildfires. He has served as a lead author for Working Group II of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and has provided testimony and scientific expertise to the White House, the governor of California, and U.S. congressional offices. Diffenbaugh is a professor at Stanford's School of Earth, Energy & Environmental Sciences and Kimmelman Family Senior Fellow at the Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment.

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#### [Chris Field](#)

Field, a climate scientist, is part of a rural air quality research project, in collaboration with the Sean N. Parker Center for Allergy and Asthma Research at Stanford, that examines wildfires' effects on respiratory illness. He served from 2008 to 2015, as co-chair of Working Group II of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, which provided the scientific foundation for the Paris Climate Accord. He is the Perry L. McCarty Director of the Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment; founding director of the Carnegie Institution for Science's Department of Global Ecology; the Melvin and Joan Lane Professor for Interdisciplinary Environmental Studies at Stanford's School of Humanities and Sciences and School of Earth, Energy & Environmental Sciences.

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### **Rob Jackson**

Jackson studies a range of wildfire impacts, including those on the carbon cycle and soils. He is the Michelle and Kevin Douglas Provostial Professor at the Stanford's School of Earth, Energy & Environmental Sciences and a senior fellow at the Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment and the Precourt Institute for Energy.

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### **Katharine Mach**

Mach, a climate scientist, is part of a rural air quality research project, in collaboration with the Sean N. Parker Center for Allergy and Asthma Research at Stanford, that examines wildfires' effects on respiratory illness. research is focused on assessment of climate change risks and response options. From 2010 to 2015, Mach co-directed the scientific activities of Working Group II of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, which focuses on impacts, adaptation and vulnerability. Mach is the director of the Stanford Environment Assessment Facility (SEAF) at the Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment, a senior research scientist in Stanford's School of Earth, Energy & Environmental Sciences and a visiting investigator at the Carnegie Institution for Science.

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## **Wildfire Management**

### **Rebecca Miller**

Miller, a graduate student in Stanford's Emmett Interdisciplinary Program in Environment and Resources, researches historic and current wildfire protection and prevention policies in California and their potential impacts on future wildfires in the state. She examines how federal, state and local governments in California respond to and prepare for wildfires.

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## **Fire, Air Quality and Public Health**

### **Sharon Chinthrajah**

Chinthrajah is a pulmonologist and allergist who studies allergies and asthma and cares for patients who suffer from these diseases. She is a clinical associate professor in the divisions of allergy/immunology and pulmonary/critical care medicine at Stanford, and serves as director of the clinical translational research unit at the Sean N. Parker Center for Allergy and Asthma Research.

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### **Kari Nadeau, M.D.**

Nadeau is one of the nation's foremost experts in adult and pediatric asthma, a respiratory condition commonly triggered or exacerbated by wildfire smoke. She is the Director of the Sean N. Parker Center

for Allergy and Asthma Research at Stanford and is an endowed professor under the Naddisy Family Foundation. She is part of a rural air quality research project, in collaboration with the Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment, that examines wildfires' effects on respiratory illness.

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### **Mary Prunicki**

Prunicki investigates the effects of ambient air pollution on the immune system, especially of asthmatic children. Her research is currently focused on the health impacts of wildfires and prescribed burns. She is a medical instructor at the Sean N. Parker Center for Allergy and Asthma Research at Stanford

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### **New Tools for Preventing Wildfires**

#### **[Eric Appel](#) and [Craig Criddle](#)**

Appel have developed an environmentally benign hydrogel that can retain fire retardants on target fuels such as dry grass for at least 9 months. They've done small-scale trials in collaboration with Cal Fire and will do some large trials next fire season. Appel is a professor of materials science and engineering. Criddle is a professor of civil and environmental engineering and a senior fellow at the Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment.

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### **Wildfire Legislation**

#### **[Bruce Cain](#)**

Cain is an expert on Western political issues, including the political context for wildfire policy and disaster response. Cain is a professor of political science, director of the Bill Lane Center for the American West and a senior fellow at the Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment and the Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research.

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#### **[Michael Wara](#)**

Wara's research focuses on climate policy and regulation. He has provided expert testimony on wildfire legislation and has been quoted widely on issues related to wildfire regulation and liability. He is the director of Stanford's Climate and Energy Research Program; a senior research scholar at the Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment; a research fellow at the Program in Energy and Sustainable Development in Stanford's Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies; and a research fellow at the Steyer-Taylor Center for Energy Policy and Finance.

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**Additional Stanford experts can be found at**  
<https://experts.stanford.edu>