

Identifying species of high conservation value for restoring ecosystem function after disturbance

Brief Project Summary:

Ecosystem function relates to the activities of organisms and their contribution to the environment. Quantifying the role biodiversity has on ecosystem function is important because socio-economic development and impacts of climate change are almost always accompanied by the loss of natural habitat and species. Thus identifying and conserving species that contribute highly to function is essential for sustaining life.



Photo by Aaron Greenville

This project aims to determine how ecosystem function changes after a disturbance (e.g. wildfire) event and partition each source of change from disturbance—species loss, gain and change in resident species dynamics—to ecosystem function. We aim to discover the mechanisms of how disturbance changes ecosystem function in order to identify species of high conservation value or act as a threatening process.

Further information:

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