Kori Blankenship, Fire Ecologist

Kori's career started in natural resources when she was hired as forestry aid on the Wenatchee National Forest in 1995. In subsequent seasons, she worked across the western U.S. as a wildland firefighter for the US Forest Service and National Park Service. She joined the LANDFIRE national program in 2004 as a GIS specialist at the Missoula Fire Sciences Lab, then moved to The Nature Conservancy's LANDFIRE team in 2005. In her decade-plus at The Conservancy, she has facilitated the creation of thousands of vegetation dynamic models for ecosystems across the US and is one of the leaders of the ongoing Biophysical Settings review and update project.

Her current focus is on applying LANDFIRE products toward addressing land management challenges on large landscapes through data customization, user support and outreach efforts. Kori's most recent publication documents A state-and-transition simulation modeling approach for estimating the historical range of variability. She is a frequent presenter at conferences, workshops, and webinars, and leads The Conservancy's team in developing tutorials about adapting and using LANDFIRE products in the field.

Kori earned an M.S. in Geography from Western Washington University's Huxley College of the Environment. She lives, works and plays in Bend, Oregon.

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