

**LANDFIRE Office Hour: 10/30 - REGISTER**

# LANDFIRE Brief

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## In this Brief:

- LANDFIRE Responds - Changes to how historic fire regime data is delivered
- Vote to rename MoD-FIS & Events Geodatabase
- Happy Birthday LANDFIRE!
- New Tutorial: Explaining Disturbance Layers & Severity
- Office Hour: Utilizing LANDFIRE in a Suitability Analysis for American Marten Reintroduction
- MTBS - New changes to come (and how they impact LANDFIRE)
- Upcoming Product Release Schedule

**LANDFIRE  
RESPONDS**

Welcome to this new series where we communicate how LANDFIRE is responding to the changing needs of users.

**Challenge:** Based on user feedback, the LANDFIRE Program is updating how it delivers estimates of pre-European colonization fire regime (Historic Fire Regime) information.

**Solution:** Since LF 2016, pre-European colonization fire regime data were only available as attributes of the Biophysical Settings (BpS) spatial layer. Starting with LF 2023, LANDFIRE will continue to offer this method but will also provide three new separate spatial layers:

1. FRG: Pre-European colonization Fire Regime Group
2. FRI: Pre-European colonization Fire Return Intervals for Surface, Mixed, and Replacement Severities
3. PFS: Pre-European colonization Percent Fire Severities for Surface, Mixed, and Replacement Severities

So you'll find three spatial layers related to pre-European colonization fire regimes instead of just one.

## **New name(s) for MoD-FIS & Events Geodatabase? Vote here:**

LANDFIRE collects polygons reflecting disturbed areas every year called the Events Geodatabase.

In the past, LANDFIRE has noted that this data source has been highly underutilized and that efforts to collect similar types of data are duplicated unnecessarily. This may have to do with the name!

**We need YOU to help us rename our Events Geodatabase! Vote here:**

LANDFIRE maps (2) seasonal fuel products called MoD-FIS (Modeling Dynamic Fuel with an Index System).

After evaluating LF product downloads and listening to users, we determined many are not aware that these seasonal adjusted fuels are available for the SW & SE. MoD-FIS may not be the best name for these products.

**We need YOU to help us rename MoD-FIS to better reflect its features! Vote here:**



**Vote: Rename Events  
Geodatabase**



**Vote: Rename MoD-FIS**

## **Time Flies...20 Years with LANDFIRE!**

It's been 20 years since the inception of LANDFIRE - check out the following two recent articles discussing the Program's past (and future)!

**READ "LANDFIRE Turns 20"  
Article**

*"I am most excited to see LANDFIRE move to a more frequent & regular update cycle. Given the incredible (and sometimes devastating) ecosystem changes, it is critical to have timely information to track those impacts...improving our ability to assess & understand these dynamic systems."*

-Sarah Anderson, USDA Forest  
Service

**Read RMRS Connected  
Science Article**

*"...LANDFIRE's multitude of geospatial data sets are 'the unsung hero of wildland fire science.' Many spatial analysis programs, IT applications, research analyses, and community assessments rely on LANDFIRE. Users of these applications are often unaware of the products' dependence on LANDFIRE data."*

- Inga La Puma, LANDFIRE Program  
Lead

# LANDFIRE Explains: Disturbance Layers & Severity (NEW TUTORIAL)

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## Video 2: (NEW)

LF Disturbance Products &  
Severity Data Explained



## Video 1:

Day in the life of a LANDFIRE  
Disturbance Mapper



## LANDFIRE Office Hours:

### Utilizing LANDFIRE in a Suitability Analysis for a Species Reintroduction

Speaker: Emily Clees, Geospatial Specialist II,  
Pennsylvania Game Commission

October 30, 2024 1 pm (ET)

When discussing feasibility for a species reintroduction,  
determining if suitable habitat exists is a crucial first  
step.

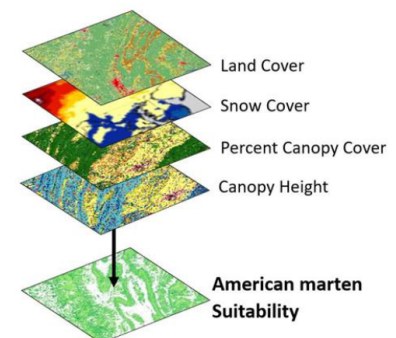


Figure 6. Categories used to develop an American marten habitat suitability model. E. Clees 2022.

By utilizing LANDFIRE's Existing Vegetation Cover, Existing Vegetation Height, and Existing Vegetation Type, a suitability model was completed for the reintroduction of American marten to Pennsylvania. Employing LANDFIRE data in this model also allowed us to create a multi-state output where we could use known marten habitat from other states as a truthing mechanism. [Check out the story map about this project.](#)

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## MTBS Updates:

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### Updates will continue to support LANDFIRE Disturbance Products & Delivery

The USDA Forest Service and Department of Interior partner to support multiple post-fire mapping and assessment programs, including the Monitoring Trends in Burn Severity (MTBS) Program. The MTBS team at the Forest Service Geospatial Technology and Applications Center (GTAC) and USGS Earth Resources Observation and Science (EROS)



Center leverages imagery from Landsat and Sentinel-2 to consistently map the location, extent and post-fire burn severity of documented large fires in the United States, across all ownerships, spanning from 1984 to present.

MTBS has recently implemented enhancements to its production efforts to facilitate more timely availability of post-fire burn severity data. This includes increasing the cadence of data releases from an annual schedule to a quarterly schedule as well as providing initial assessment products for all fires greater than 10,000 acres in size. These enhancements are implemented to address the evolving needs of partners and end users, including the support of LANDFIRE's update and delivery of its new limited and preliminary annual disturbance products.

LANDFIRE uses MTBS data in our disturbance layers to map severity. MTBS data retain the highest priority for disturbance data due to its consistency and standardization, long-term record, and rigorous methodology. The LANDFIRE program is excited about these updates. [READ MORE](#)

## Upcoming LF Release Schedule:

LOCATION	PRODUCT	DATE
All Extents	Public Events Geodatabase	September ✓
CONUS	Preliminary Disturbance	September ✓
CONUS / Alaska	LF 2023 Final Annual Disturbance	September ✓
CONUS	Public Events Geodatabase	September ✓
Southwest	Fall Seasonal MoD-FIS	October 2 ✓
SC / NC / NE / SE	LF 2023	October 31
CONUS	Fire Regimes (2016 Remap), Succession Class, Veg. Condition Class, Veg. Departure	October 31
HI / IA	Disturbance, Vegetation, Fuel	November 26
AK / HI	Fire Regimes, Succession Class, Veg. Condition Class, Veg. Departure, BpS (AK only)	November 26
AK / HI / IA	Fuel Characteristic Classification System (FCCS)	November 26

**NEW DELIVERY DATE!**  
(Previous date Oct. 31)

**FULL RELEASE  
SCHEDULE**

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