



# **Sierra Nevada Adaptive Management Experiments:**

Treatments to promote  
resistance, resilience, and adaptation

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University of Nevada, Reno



Pacific Southwest  
Research Station



Berkeley  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA



Project Partners



# Project Overview





# Climate change disruption in Sierra Nevada forests

## Project Objectives:

- Quantify **treatment effectiveness and forest response** to climate change across latitudinal and elevational extents of the Sierra mixed-conifer forest
- Track **stand dynamics**, mortality, productivity under ongoing climate change
- Inform **seed zone regulations** and increasing **forest resilience** by matching provenances to current and future climates
- Identify **solutions and target structures** for addressing the challenging task of preparing and managing for ongoing climate change

A black silhouette of a tree is centered on a white background. A solid green rectangular box is superimposed over the middle of the tree, containing white text. The tree's canopy is visible above the box, and its trunk and lower branches are visible below the box.

1) How have and will climate change and altered disturbance regimes influence community composition & stand dynamics?



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2) What effects will these changes have on tree regeneration, growth, and survival in the future?





1) How have climate change and altered disturbance regimes influenced community composition & stand dynamics?

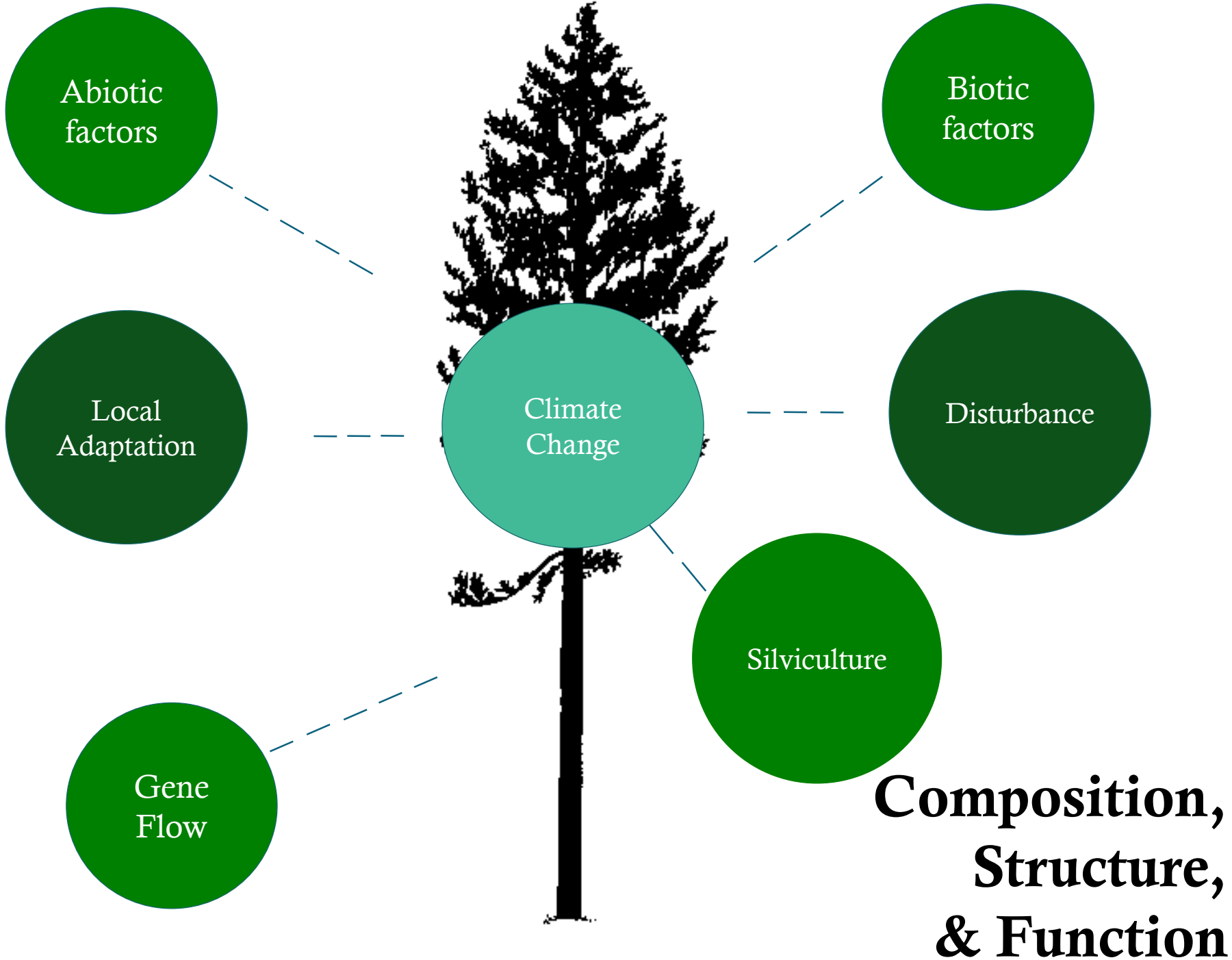


2) What effects will these changes have on tree regeneration, growth, and survival in the future?



3) What species (and populations) will be best suited for future conditions?







A black silhouette of a tree is centered on the page. A thick green horizontal banner is superimposed over the middle of the tree's trunk. The banner contains the text "Planning & Design" in a white, serif font.

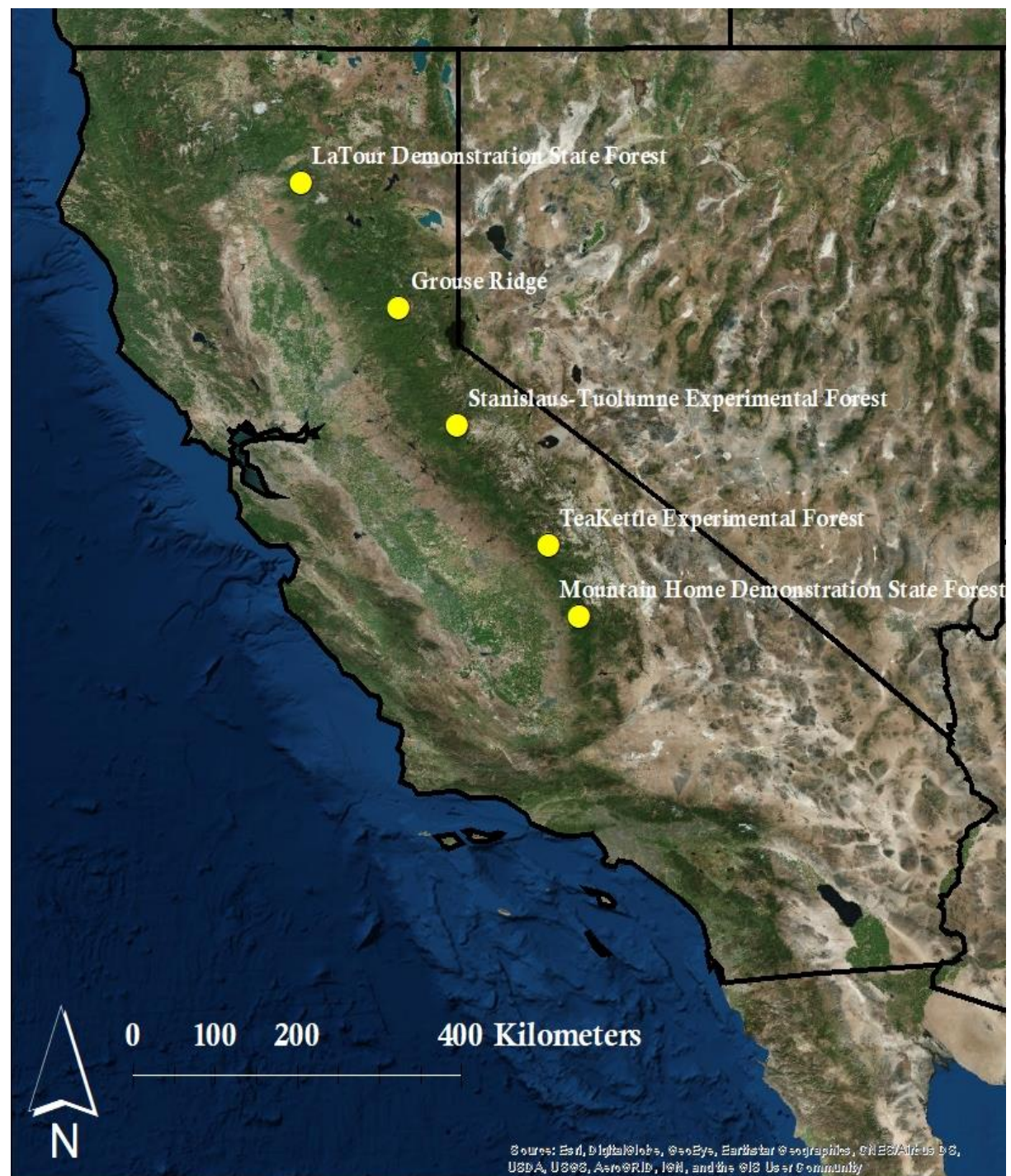
# Planning & Design

# Treatment Areas

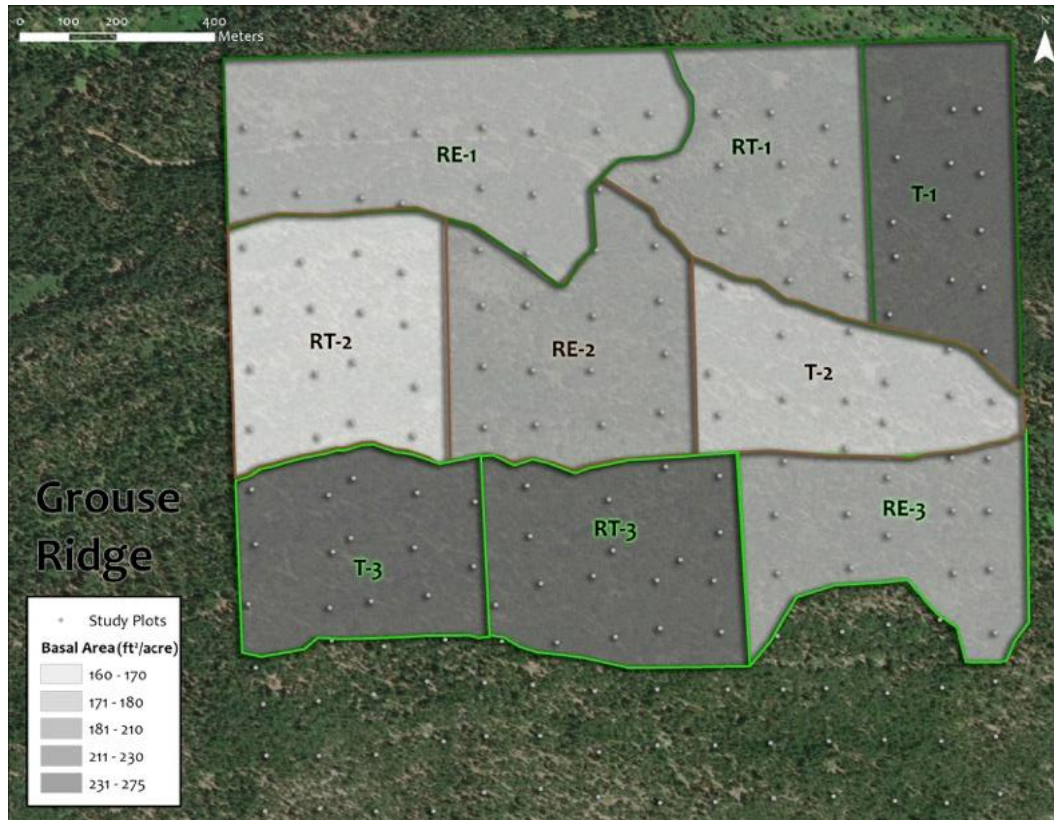
5 properties

4° Latitude

5,200-7,500 ft elevation



# Treatment Design



- 240 acre treatment areas
- 2 areas
  - Prescribed burn
  - Unburned
- Randomized block
  - elevation
- Treatments:
  - Resilience
  - Resistance
  - Transition
  - (Control)

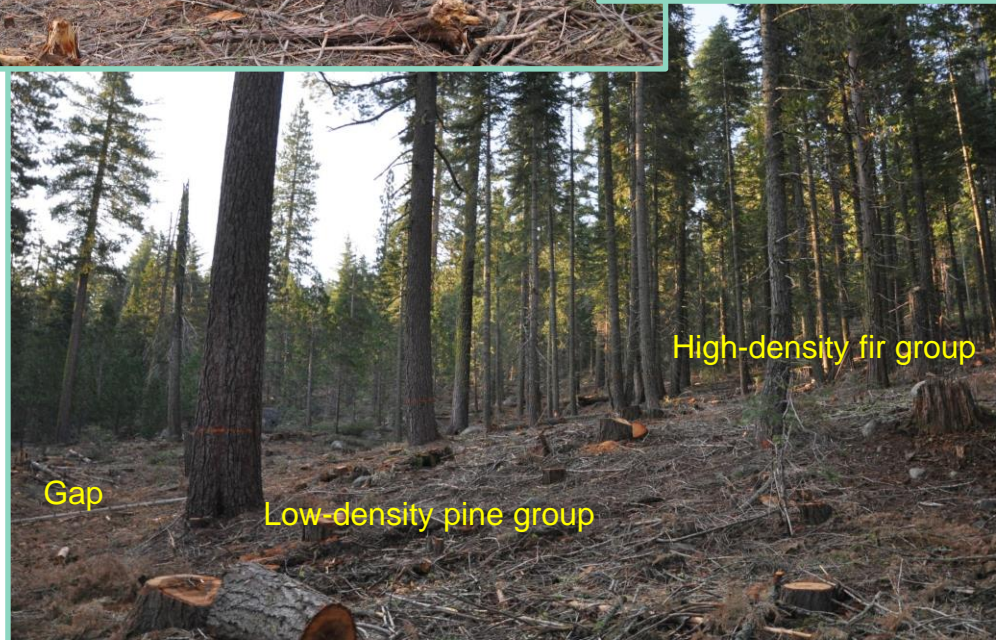


# Treatment Design



**Transition**

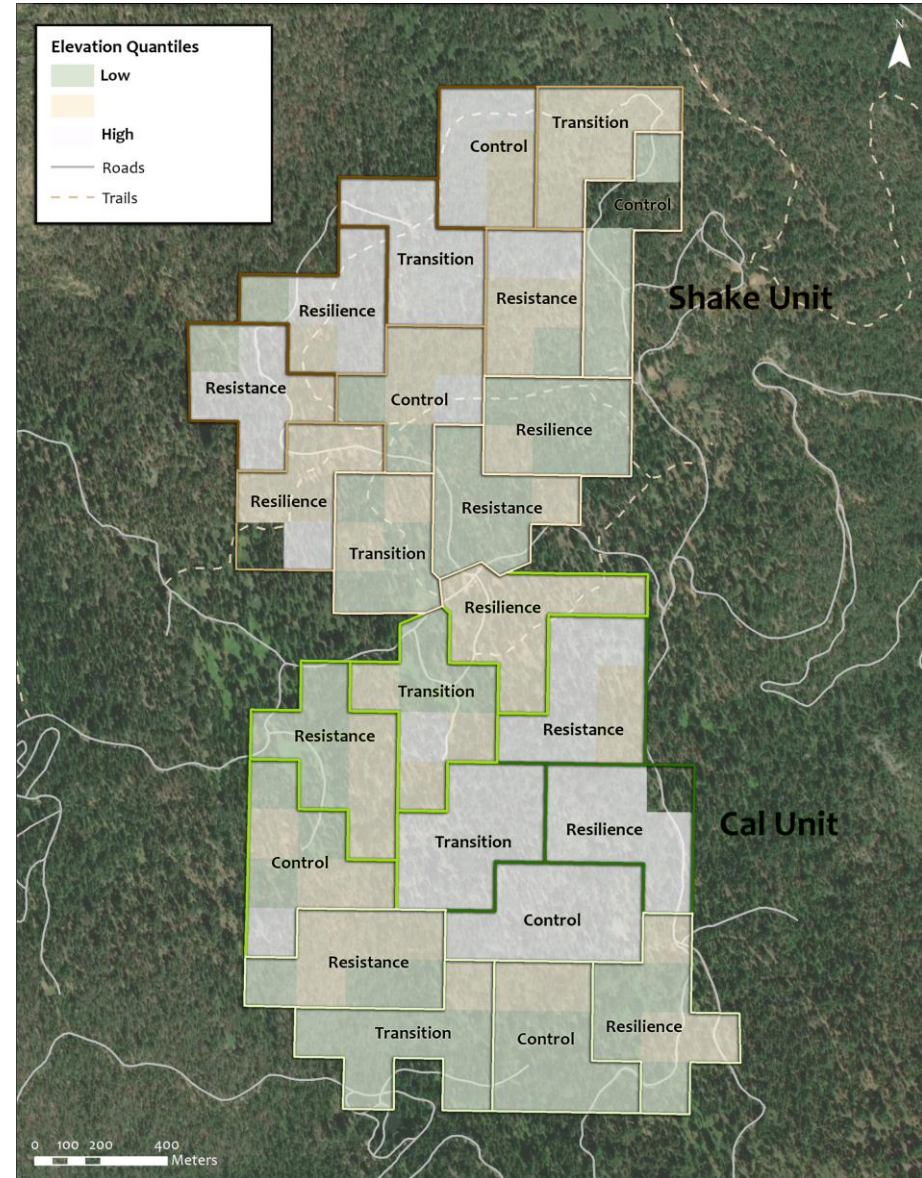
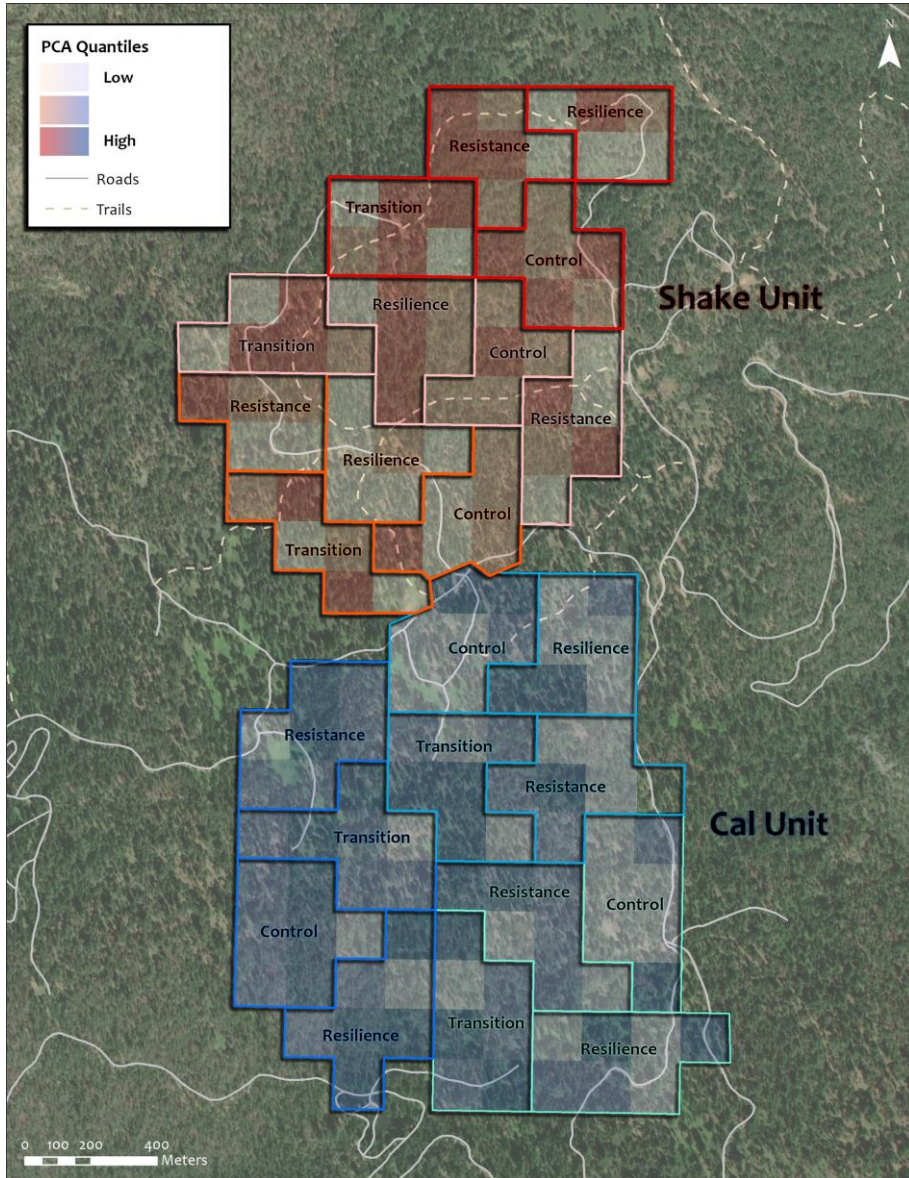
**Resistance**



**Resilience**

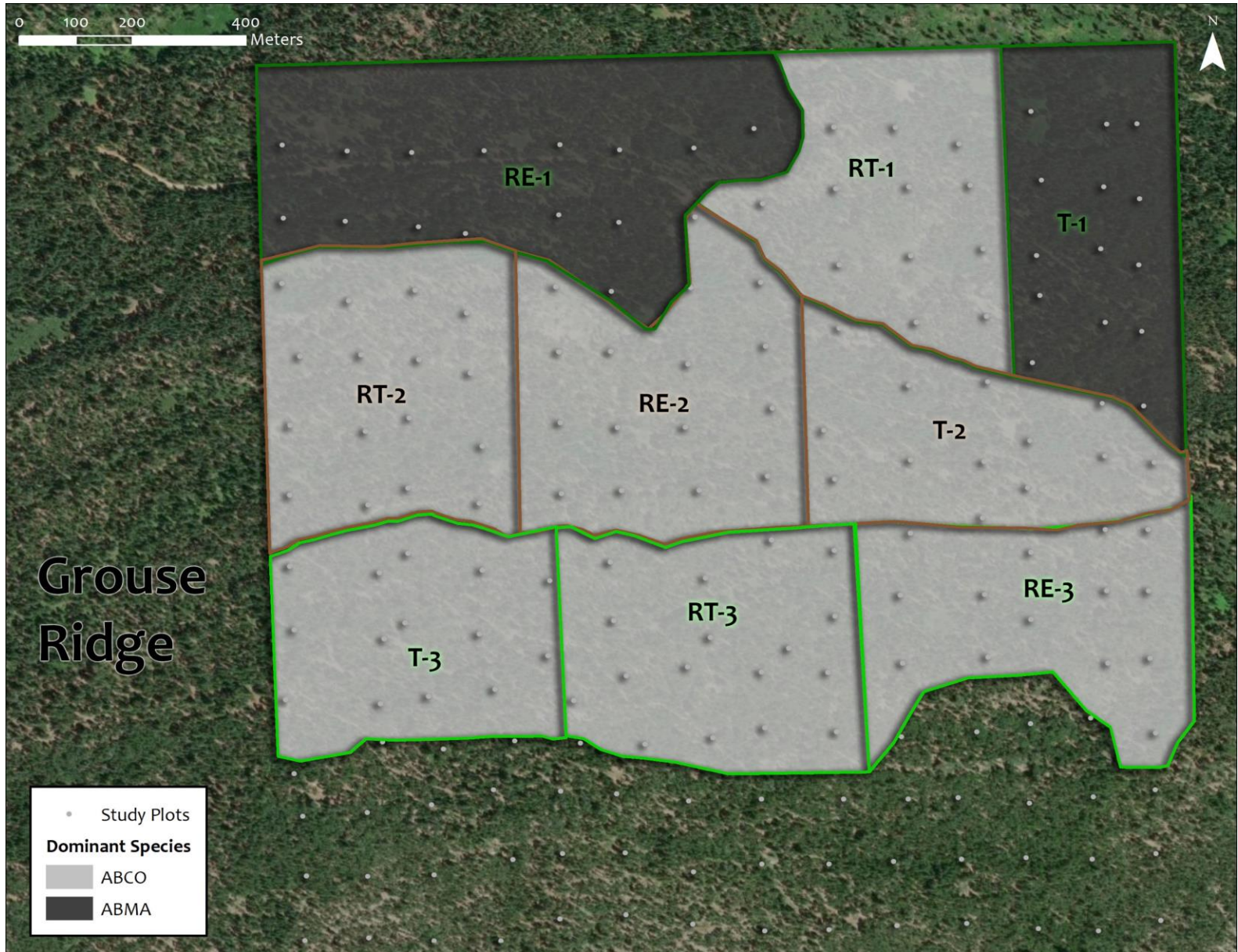


# Blocking





# Grouse Ridge (Berkeley)



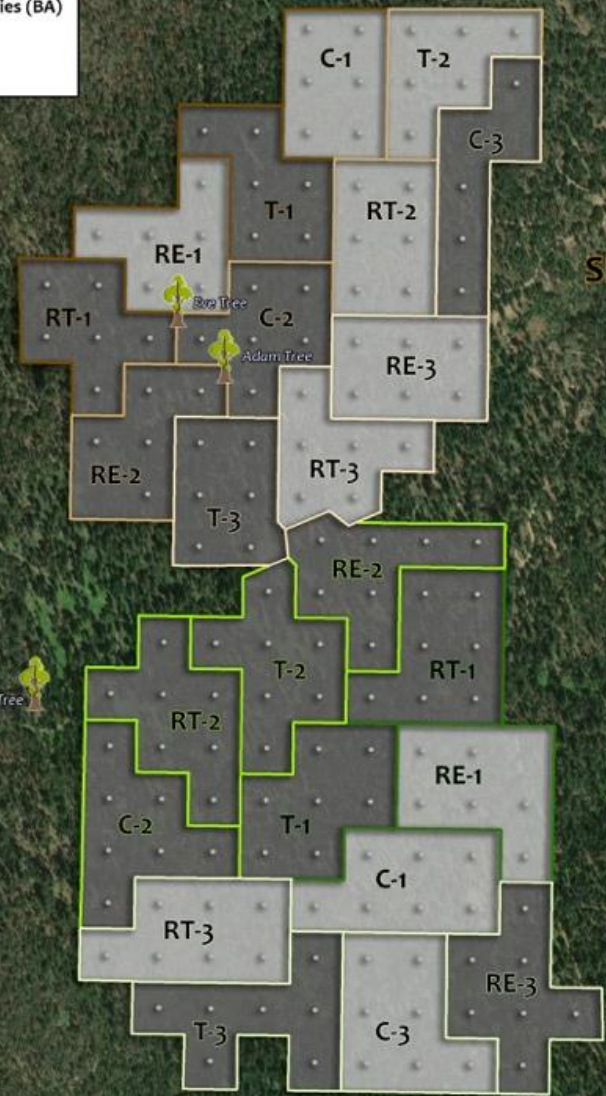


# Mountain Home

• Study Plots

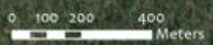
**Dominant Species (BA)**

- ABCO
- SEGI



Shake

Cal

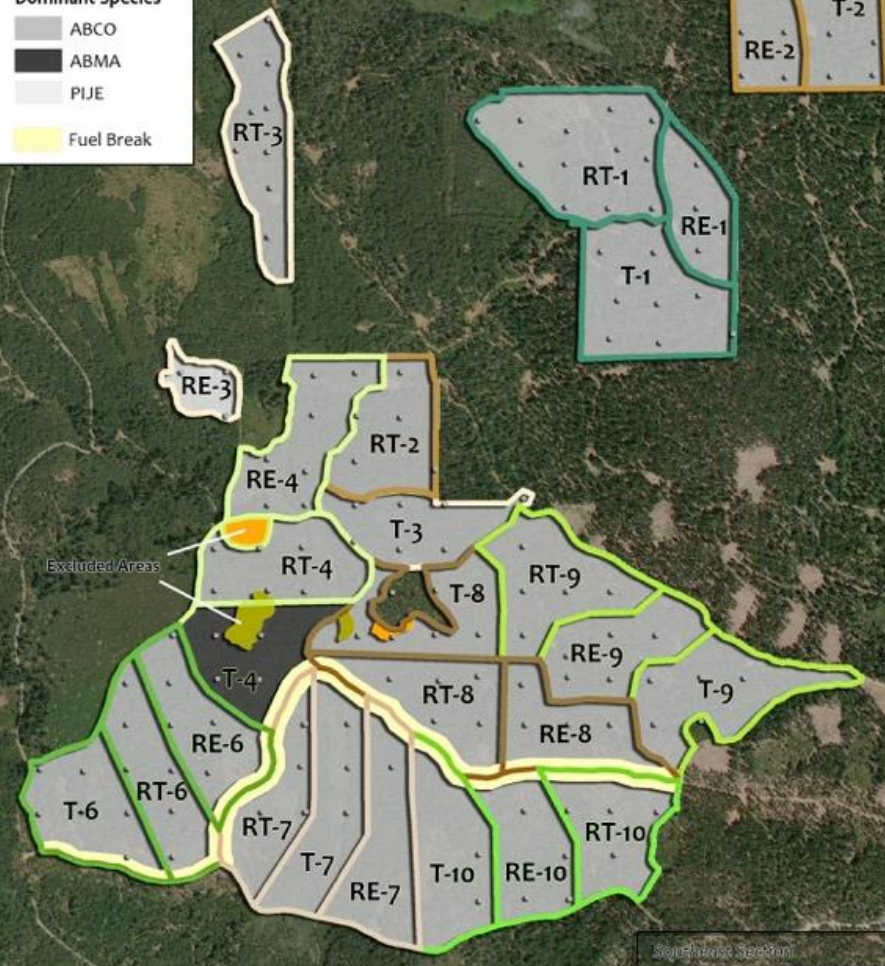


# LaTour

• Study Plots

**Dominant Species**

- ABCO
- ABMA
- PIJE
- Fuel Break

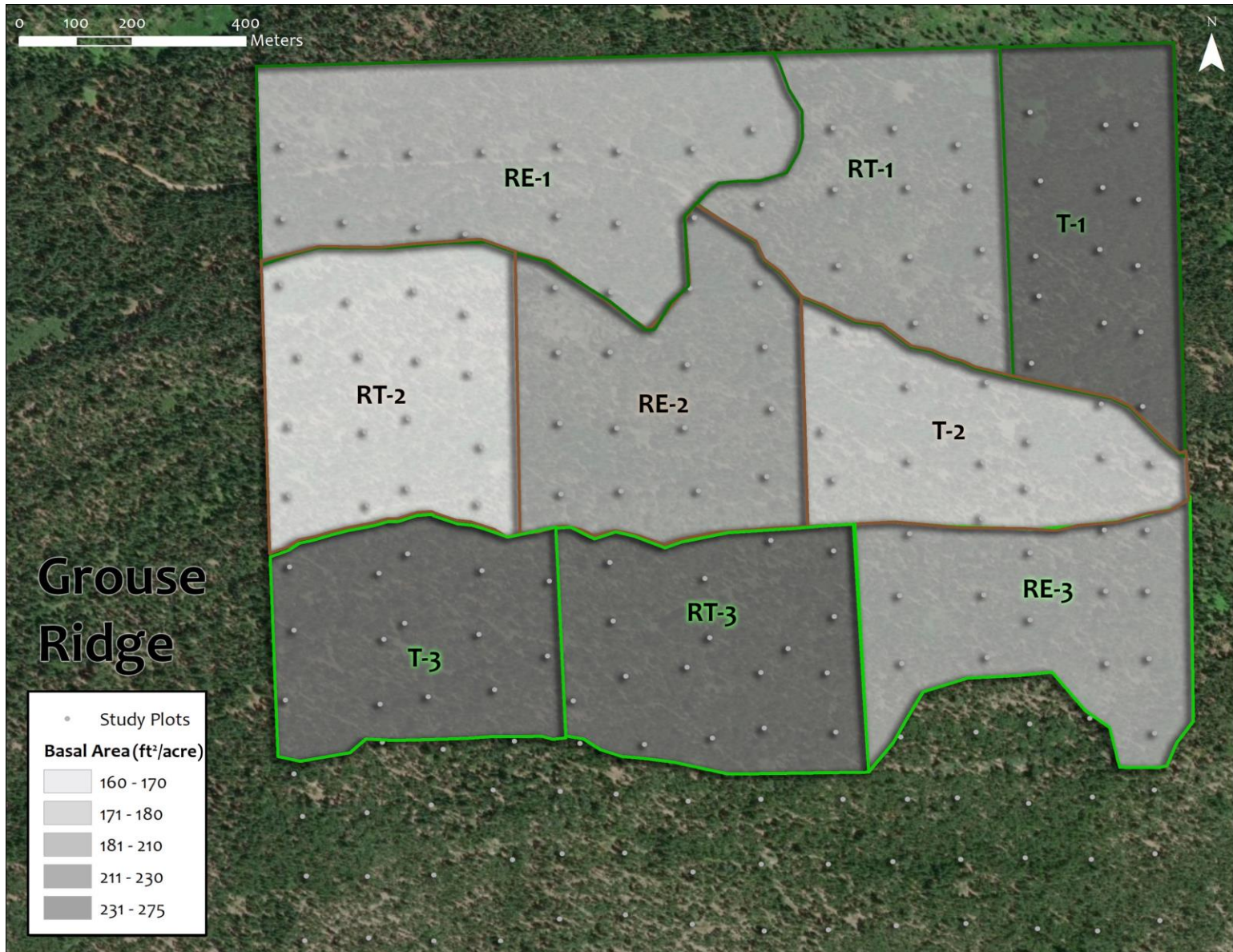


Excluded Areas

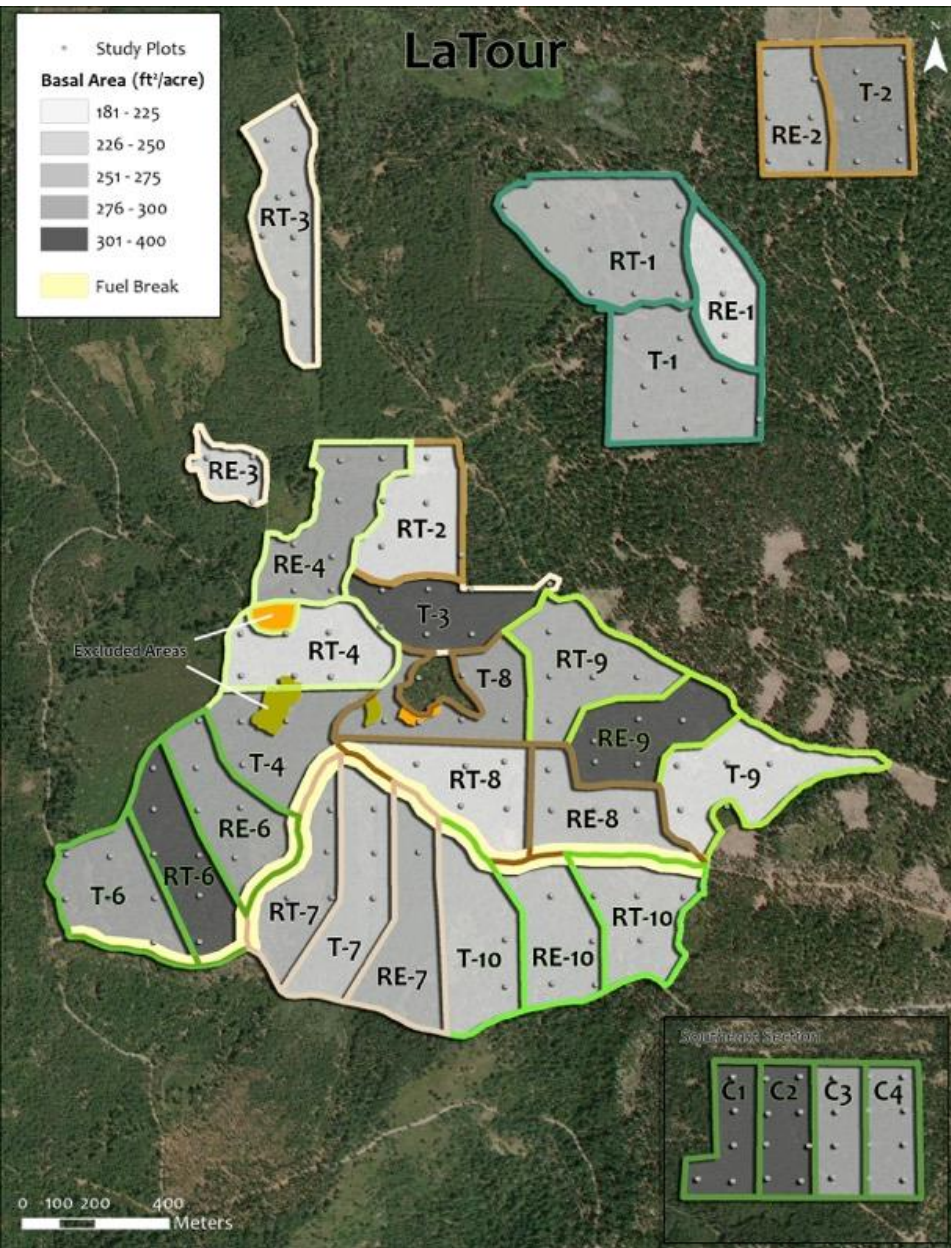
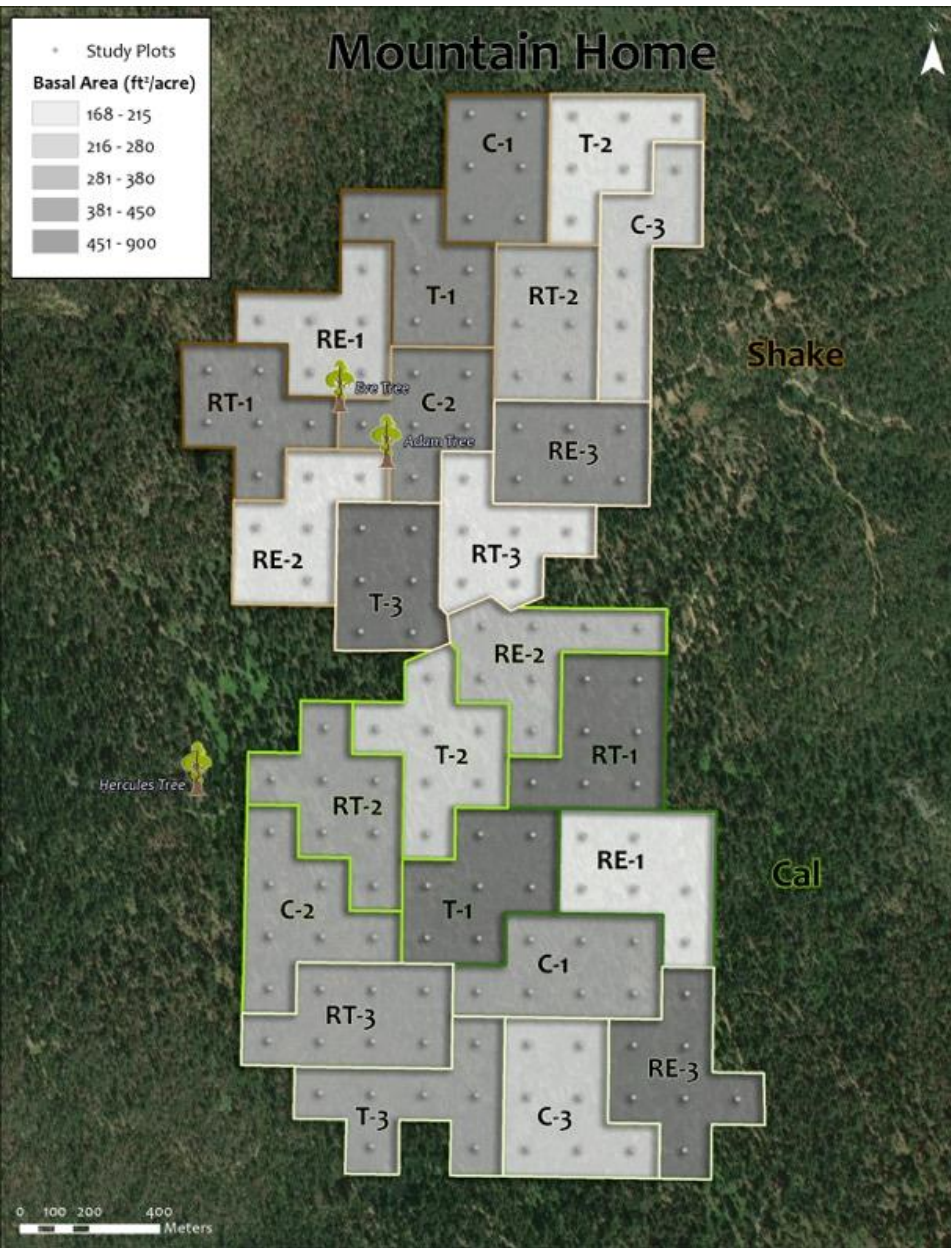




# Grouse Ridge (Berkeley)

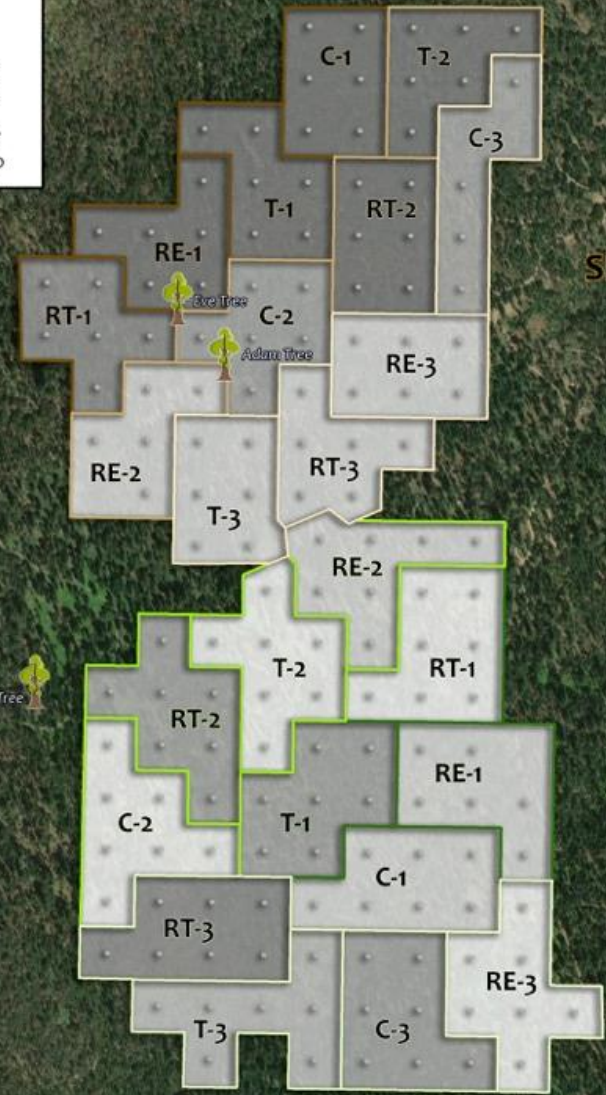
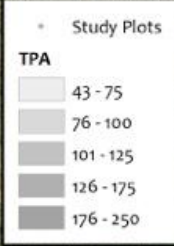




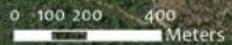
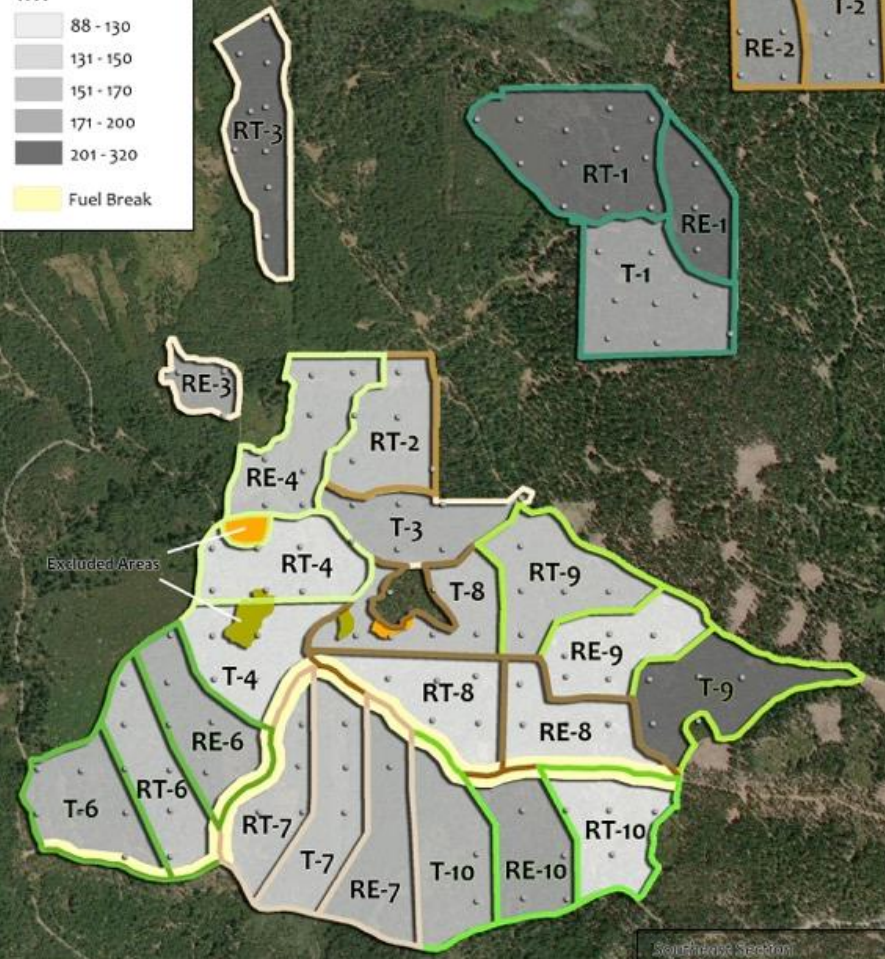
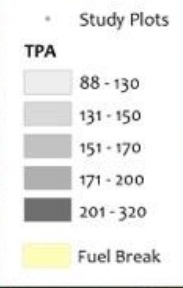




# Mountain Home



# LaTour





A black silhouette of a coniferous tree, possibly a spruce or fir, is centered on the page. The tree's canopy is triangular and dense with small branches, while its trunk is a simple vertical line. A green rectangular banner with a thin blue border is superimposed over the middle of the tree's trunk.

# Reforestation & Provenance Trials



1) How have climate change and altered disturbance regimes influenced community composition & stand dynamics?



2) What effects will these changes have on tree regeneration, growth, and survival in the future?



3) What species (and populations) will be best suited for future conditions?

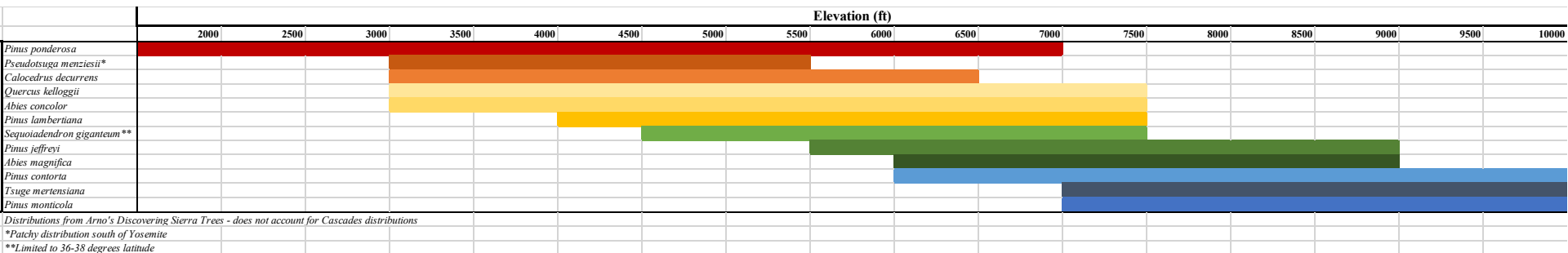


# Transition Treatment: seed zone common garden study

Seed Zones of California

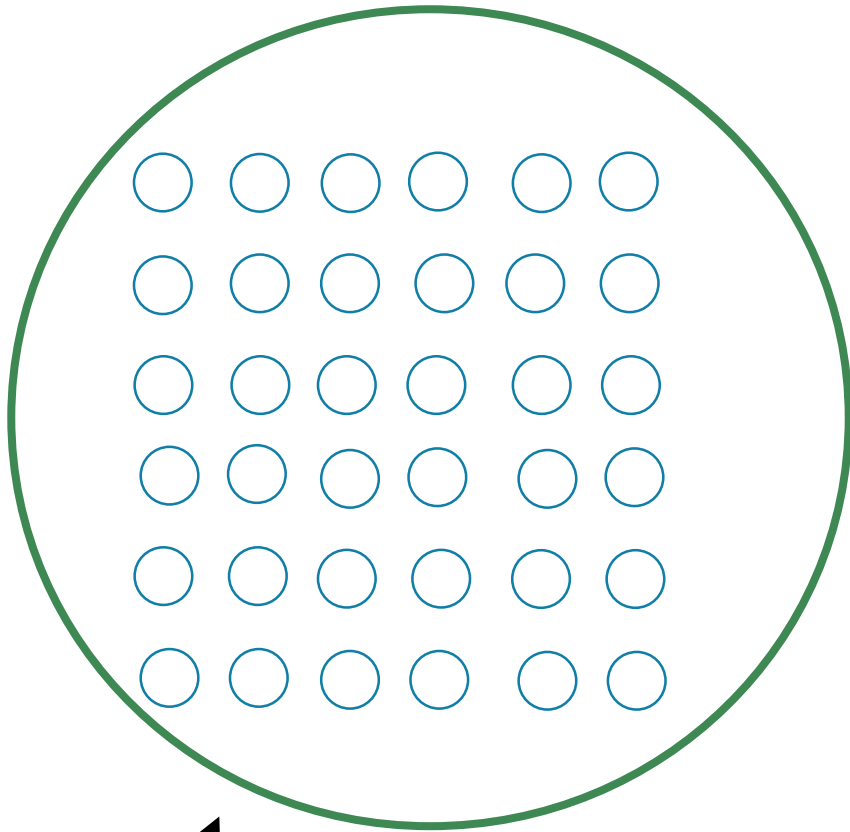


# Transition Treatment: seed zone common garden study





# Transition Treatment: seed zone common garden study



**1 ac gaps**

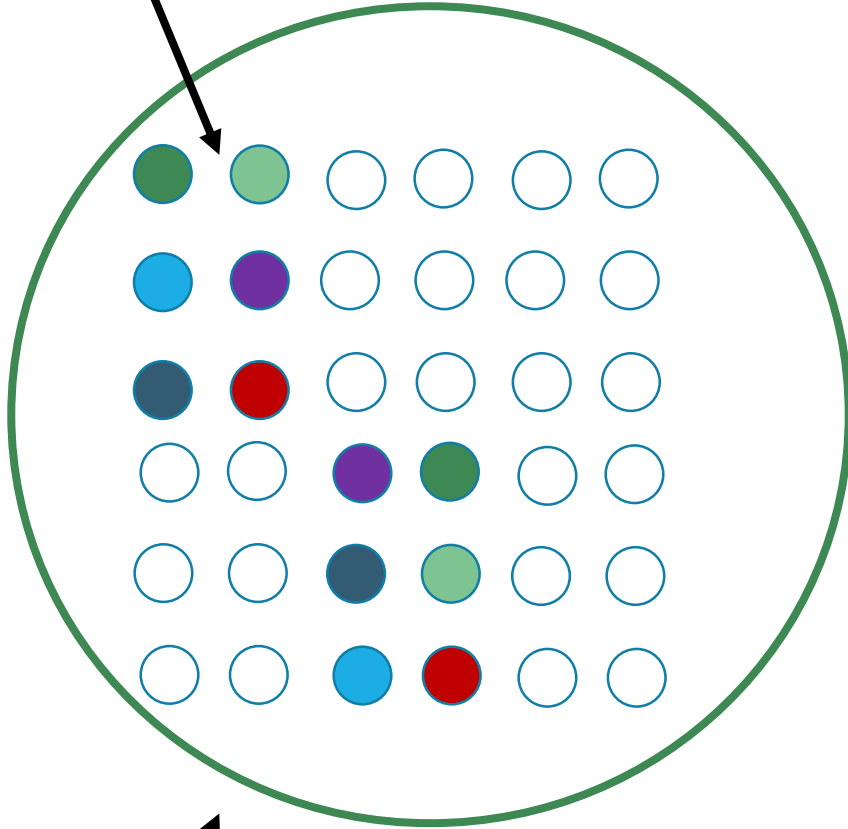


- Fully reciprocal
- 12 provenances per species
- 6 species
- Gradient of climate conditions



# Transition Treatment: seed zone common garden study

Randomized block  
design



## Seedlings per garden:

6 species x

12 provenances/species x

24 individuals/provenance =

**1,728 seedlings**


## Seedlings per property:

1,728 seedlings per garden x

6 gaps/property =

**~10,400 seedlings**

 = *Pinus jeffreyi*

 = *Pinus ponderosa*

 = *Calocedrus decurrens*

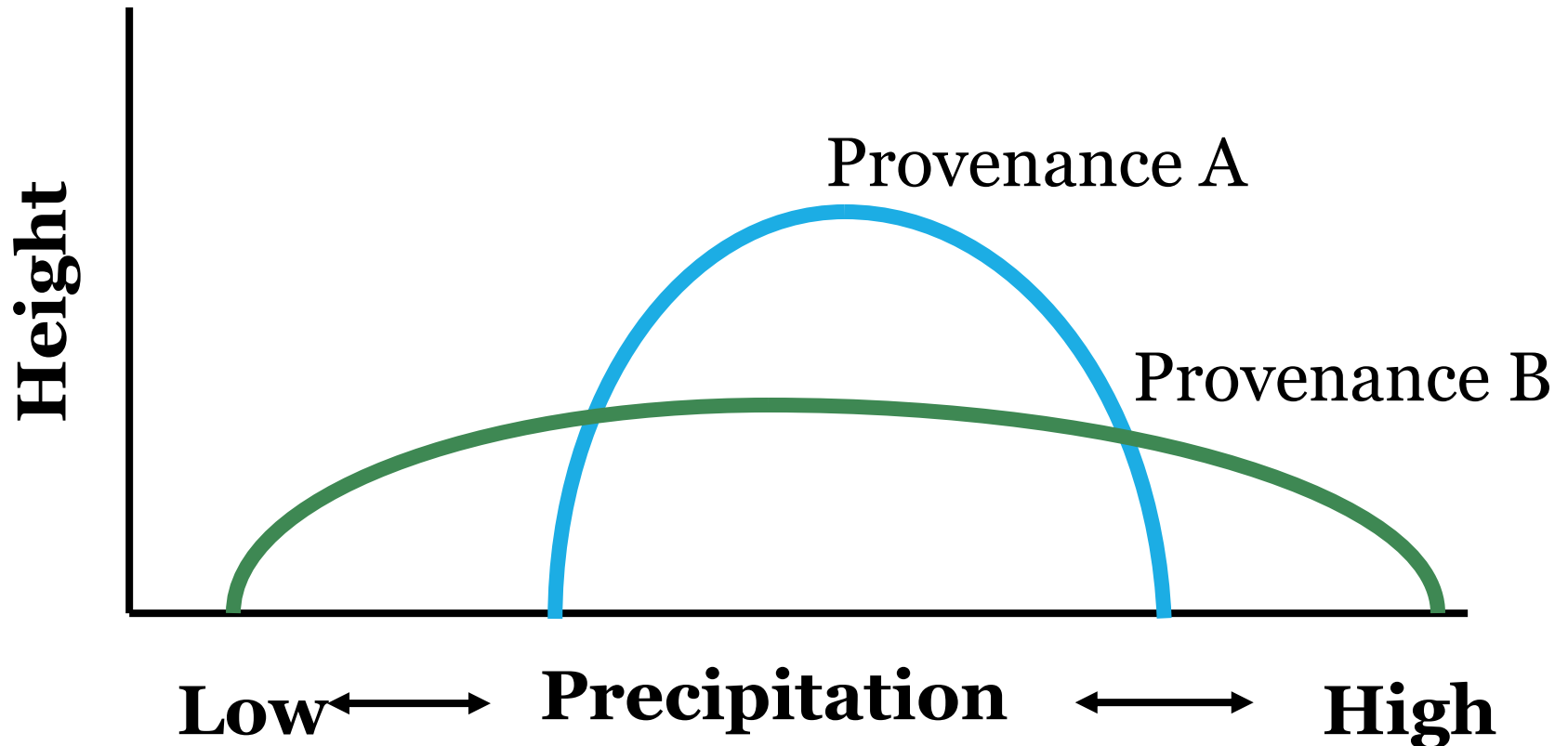
 = *Pinus lambertiana*

 = *Sequoiadendron giganteum*

 = *Quercus kelloggii* (or PSMA)

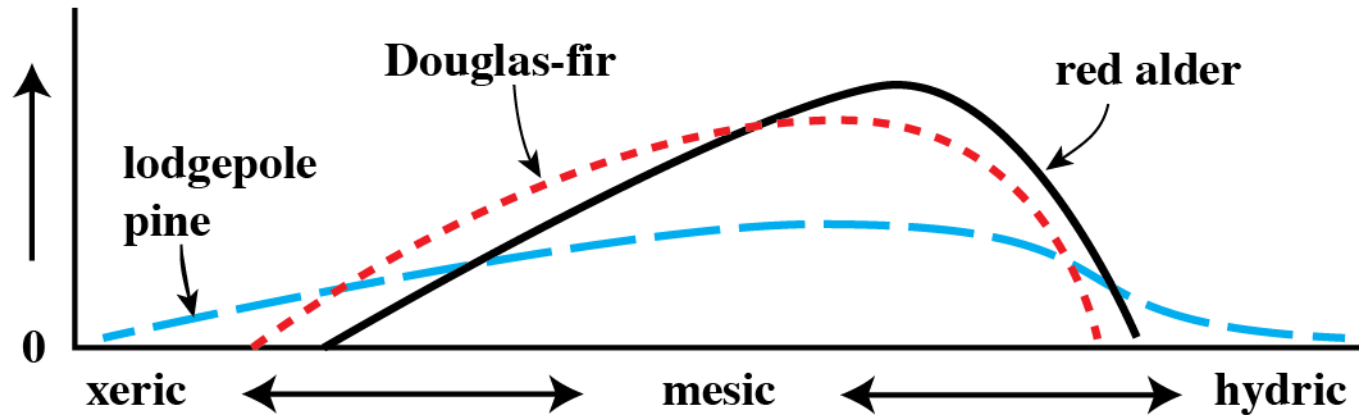
**1 ac gaps**

# Provenance Climate Variability

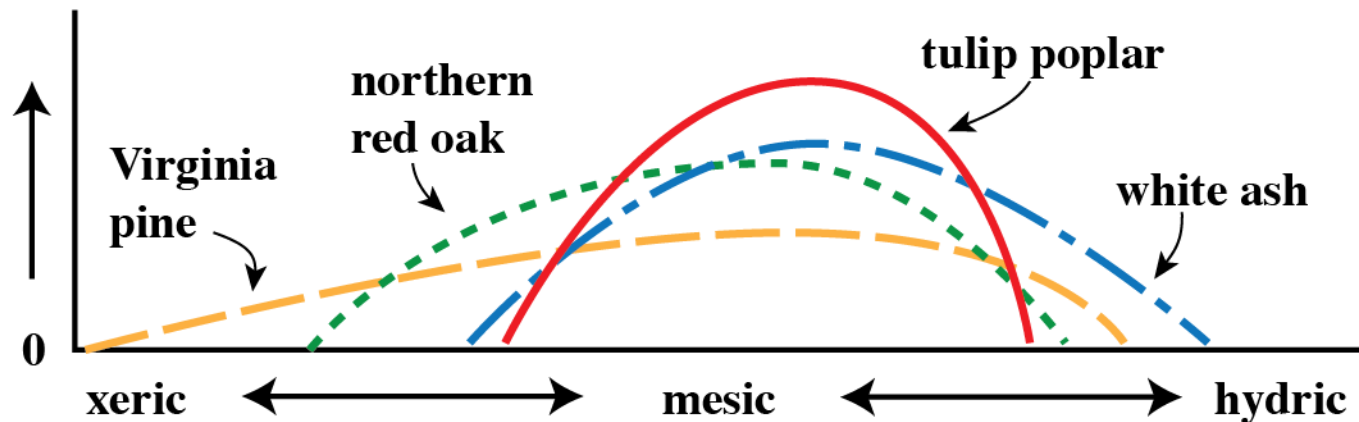


**RELATIVE COMPETITIVENESS**

### VANCOUVER ISLAND



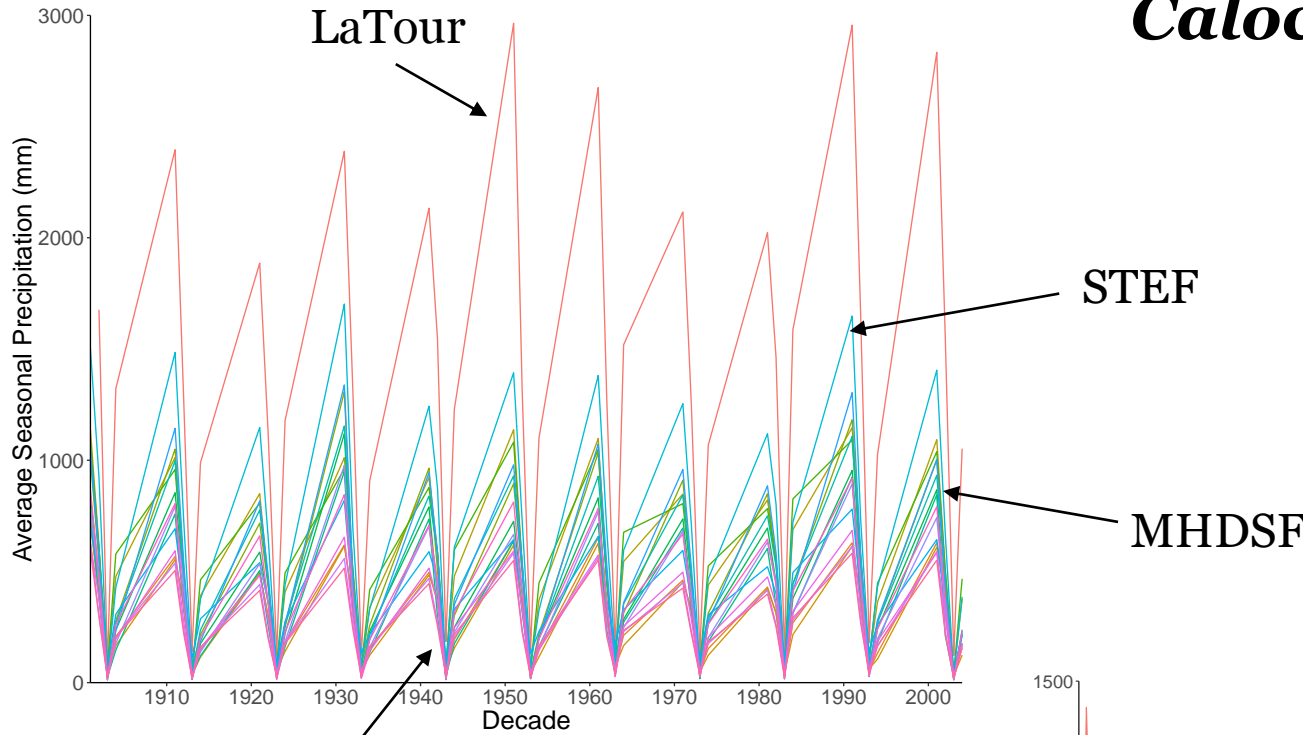
### EASTERN UPLAND FOREST



**SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION**

# *Calocedrus decurrens*

17 seed lots



Eldorado NF

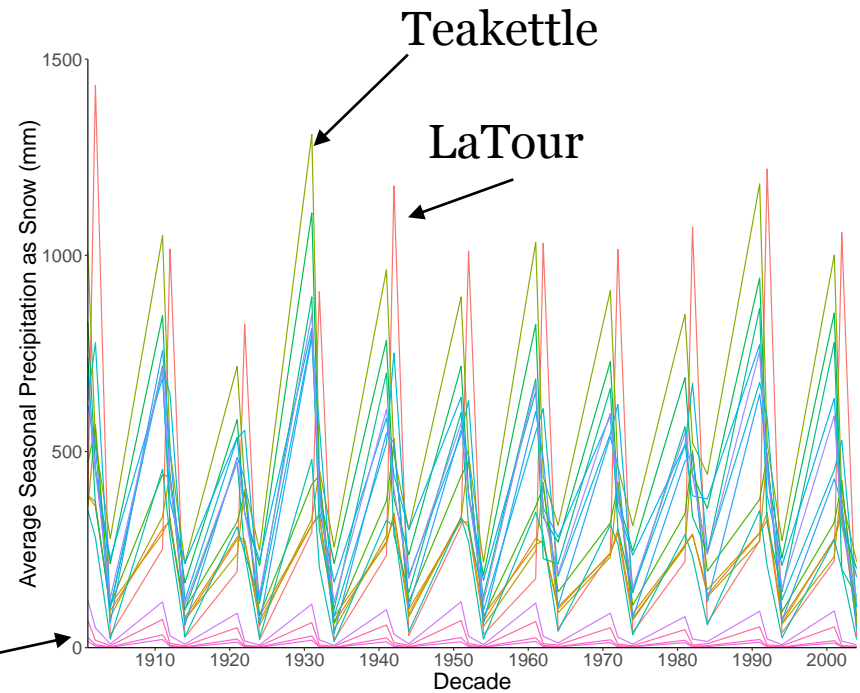
## Coefficient of Variation

LaTour = 0.68

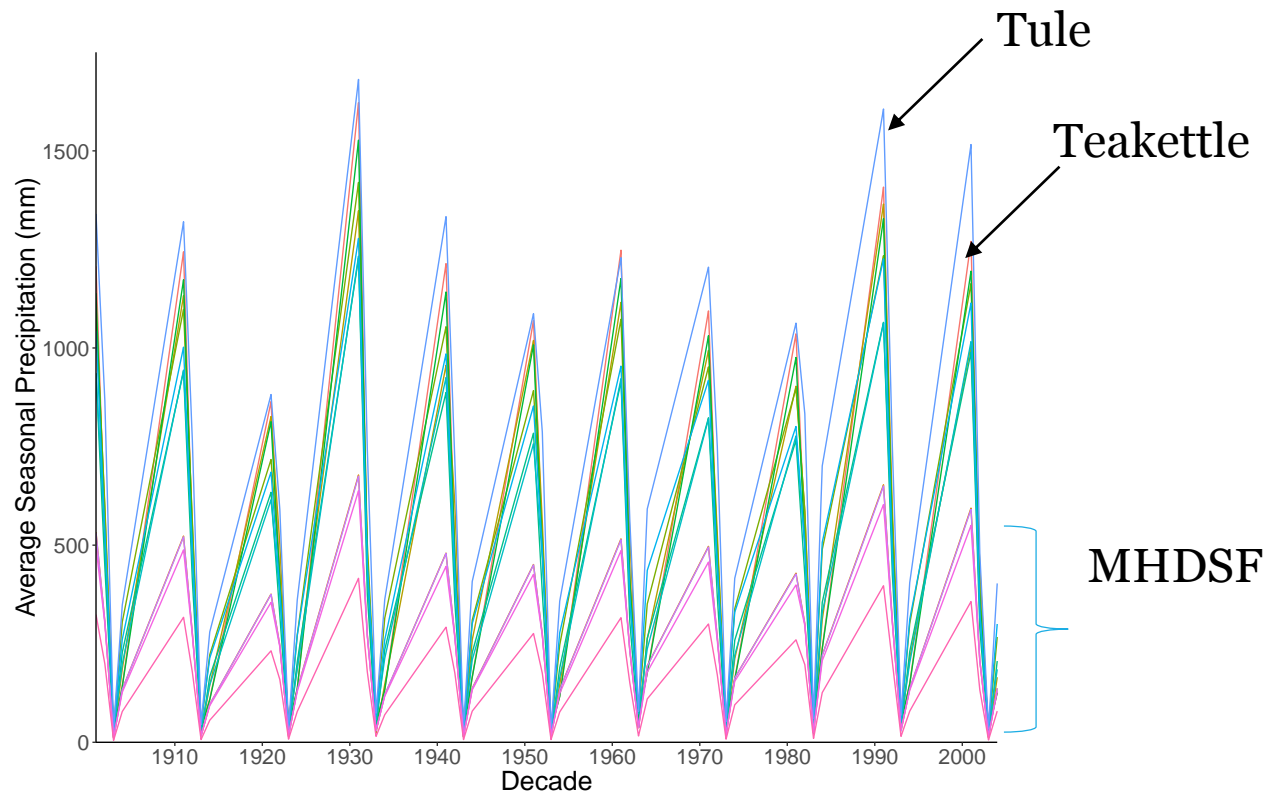
STEF = 0.75

MHDSF = 0.83

Species = 0.98



Eldorado NF



# *Sequoiadendron giganteum*

12 seed lots

## Coefficient of Variation

Tule = 0.78

MHDSF = 0.79

Teakettle = 1.00

Species = 0.97





# Project Implementation

# Grouse Ridge (UC Berkeley)





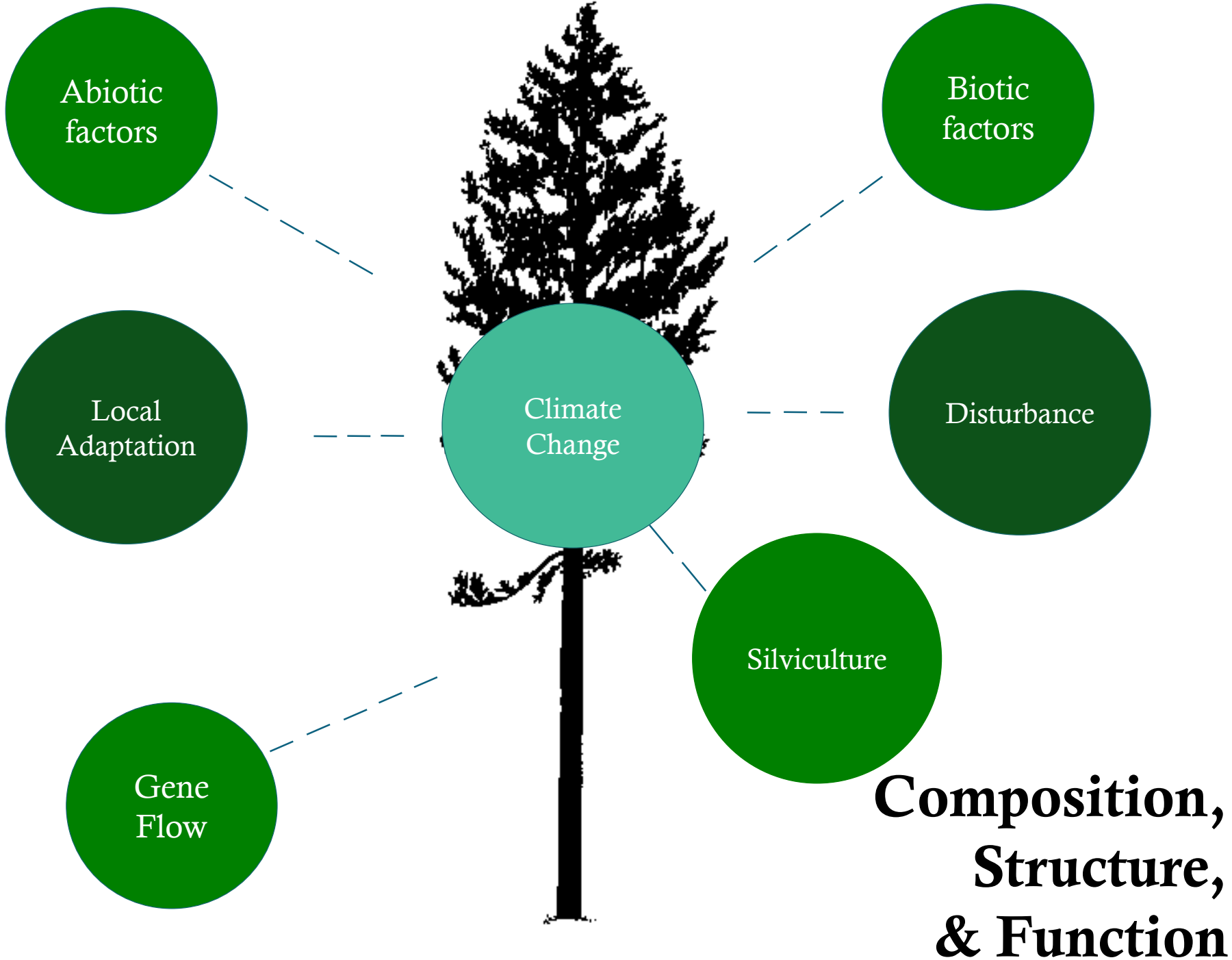


# Planting Site Prep



# Prescribed Burn Prep







# Discussion & Questions

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<b>Property</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Unit Elevation Range (ft)</b>	<b>Property Elevation Range (ft)</b>	<b>Latitude</b>	<b>Longitude</b>	<b>Seed Zone</b>	<b>PIPO</b>	<b>PSME</b>	<b>CADE</b>	<b>QUKE</b>	<b>ABCO</b>	<b>PILA</b>	<b>SEGI</b>	<b>PIJE</b>	<b>ABMA</b>	<b>PICO</b>	<b>TSME</b>	<b>PIMO</b>
<i>Core</i>																		
LaTour Demonstration State Forest	Cal Fire	5200-5600	3800-6740	40° 38' 22"N	-121° 43' 26"W	522	X	o	X	o	X	X	o	o	o	X	o	X
Grouse Ridge	UC Berkeley	5200-6200		39° 22' 23" N	-120° 39' 17" W	525	X	o	X	x	X	X	planted	x	X	x		o
Mountain Home Demonstration State Forest	Cal Fire	6560-7400	4800-7600	36° 14' 24"N	-118° 40' 20"W	534	X	planted	X	X	X	X	X	o	o			
<i>Companion</i>																		
Stanislaus-Tuolumne Experimental Forest	USFS PSW	5200-6400	5200-6400	38° 11' 04"N	-120° 01' 01"W	531	X	x	X	X	X	X	planted	X	o	o	o	o
TeaKettle Experimental Forest	USFS PSW	6600-7500	6500-9200	36° 58' 00"N	-119° 01' 00"W	533			X	x	X	X		X	X	o		o

## Mountain Home Total Basal Area (ft<sup>2</sup>/acre) & Trees/Acre

### Shake Unit

Block	Treatment	BA (ft <sup>2</sup> /ac)	TPA
1	C	395	203
1	T	384	168
1	RE	281	180
1	RT	453	157
2	T	204	197
2	RT	295	247
2	C	455	150
2	RE	226	116
3	RE	407	100
3	RT	171	92
3	T	502	88
3	C	392	213

### Cal Unit

Block	Treatment	BA (ft <sup>2</sup> /ac)	TPA
1	RT	418	71
1	RE	168	95
1	T	678	123
1	C	272	84
2	RE	266	86
2	T	212	56
2	RT	306	127
2	C	299	70
3	RE	859	43
3	C	188	97
3	T	289	90
3	RT	273	133

### Mountain Home - Shake Unit Basal Area (ft<sup>2</sup>/acre) by Species

Block	Treatment	PIJE	PILA	CADE	PIPO	ABCO	ABMA	QUKE	SEGI
1	C	0	112	1	0	0	282	0	0
1	T	25	8	35	0	0	113	0	204
1	RE	2	14	5	0	1	155	0	102
1	RT	8	14	26	2	0	61	0	342
2	T	16	51	5	0	0	121	12	0
2	RT	0	91	66	4	0	132	0	0
2	C	0	5	100	0	0	149	0	200
2	RE	0	0	21	0	0	78	0	126
3	RE	0	7	0	0	0	199	0	184
3	RT	0	0	14	1	16	109	0	31
3	T	0	0	0	0	17	129	0	352
3	C	8	17	40	0	0	125	21	183

### Mountain Home - Cal Unit Basal Area (ft<sup>2</sup>/acre) by Species

Block	Treatment	PIJE	CADE	CONU	PILA	PIPO	ABMA	ABCO	PSME	SEGI
1	RT	0	4	0	10	0	0	75	0	328
1	RE	4	0	0	23	0	0	134	1	0
1	T	6	11	0	10	0	0	148	0	504
1	C	15	11	0	13	0	0	120	0	108
2	RE	0	0	0	21	0	39	98	0	109
2	T	0	0	0	0	0	0	83	0	129
2	RT	0	0	0	2	0	14	80	0	211
2	C	0	0	1	45	0	1	99	0	153
3	RE	5	0	0	2	0	0	44	0	805
3	C	21	14	0	0	0	0	119	0	33
3	T	0	45	0	10	0	0	55	0	162
3	RT	0	45	0	8	2	0	139	0	79