

USGS WESTERN ECOLOGICAL RESEARCH CENTER PUBLICATION BRIEFS

Resource managers may be interested in publication briefs from the USGS Western Ecological Research Center (WERC). Briefs are posted at www.werc.usgs.gov/pubbriefs/index.html, in some cases along with a copy of the scientific publication. The briefs provide nontechnical summaries of research findings published in recent scientific articles by WERC scientists. The briefs emphasize management implications of the research, provide the researcher's contact information, and supply the publication citation.

Currently posted briefs cover plant diversity and fire effects, assessing alien plant threats and setting priorities for managing problem species, potential effects of atmospheric nitrogen deposition on alien annual plants, alien plants and fire in desert tortoise habitat, introduced species and their missing parasites, Native American impacts on fire regimes, and human disturbance of shorebirds. Resource managers who have a potential interest in the implications of the research may request publication briefs to be mailed to them with a copy of the publication.

Western Ecological Research Center is one of 18 centers of the Biological Resources Division of the U.S. Geological Survey. Scientists and staff are based in offices located throughout the Pacific Southwest. Scientists focus on cross-regional issues, so research is neither geographically nor client-restricted. Researchers use broad syntheses, systems analysis, and applications of nontraditional approaches to serve clients' needs, including ecological research, monitoring and technology development, and basic biology and modeling. Scientists at the center have expertise in various taxonomic and ecological disciplines, such as herpetology, conservation biology, wetlands ecology, and ecological restoration. They also have specialized abilities and experience in techniques and methodologies such as geographic information systems (GIS), radio and satellite telemetry, and amphibian monitoring.