



## Carl Skinner Wins the Harold Biswell Lifetime Achievement Award

The Association for Fire Ecology (AFE) is pleased to announce that Carl Skinner has been awarded the 2022 Harold Biswell Lifetime Achievement Award for his significant contributions to fire ecology and management in the western United States.

Carl Skinner is a retired research Geographer with the US Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Research Station (PSW) in Redding, California. He was introduced to fire early while growing up on a farm in the southern Cascade Range of Shasta County, CA. His and neighboring families would burn together to keep forest understories open to maintain livestock forage. He began his fire career in 1968 as a firefighter and worked in USFS fire management until 1988 when Carl transferred to PSW Redding to do research in fire ecology and management. His research at PSW contributed fundamental understanding of how climate, topography, and humans control fire regimes and vegetation patterns over a range of temporal and spatial scales, and how management can increase forest resilience to fire and climate change. He is the author or co-author of over 80 scientific publications that includes content that focuses on forestry (Forest Ecology and Management), ecology (Ecology, Journal of Biogeography), fire science (International Journal of Wild-fire, Fire Ecology), climate science (Holocene, Theoretical and Applied Climatology, Geophysical Research Letters), and interdisciplinary research (Proceeding of the National Academy of Sciences, Environmental Research Letters). He was the lead scientist in charge of the Redding laboratory before retirement in 2014.

AFE honors career achievements in fire ecology and management by recognizing the pioneers and early advocates in our field. Each year, lifetime achievement awards are presented to individuals who have made significant contributions to fire ecology and management and who have inspired and mentored a generation of fire ecologists. The award for individuals who primarily work in ecosystems found in western United States or in similar ecosystems internationally is named after Harold Biswell, a longtime faculty member at the University of California-Berkeley. Harold was a pioneer fire ecologist, conducting research on fuel hazard reduction and prescribed burning in California and teaching hundreds of students and managers from the 1950-80s.

A list of all Lifetime Achievement Award winners is available at <https://fireecology.org/afe-award-winners>.

### About AFE

The Association for Fire Ecology (AFE) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the knowledge of fire ecology and uses of fire in resilient landscape management. Our members include scientists, educators, students, managers, practitioners, policy-makers, and interested citizens. To learn more about AFE, visit [www.fireecology.org](http://www.fireecology.org).



“Mr. Skinner is an exceptional scientist and communicator who has made significant contributions to fire science, ecosystem restoration and management, and education of the public writ large on fire ecology and fire effects of western ecosystems. The spark for his career may have been ignited when Carl took Harold Biswell’s range management course at UC Berkeley in 1971.”

