Focus on changing fire regimes: Interactions with climate, ecosystems, and society


Background:
- We organized a focus issue in Environmental Research Letters around the topic of changing fire regimes.

Contributions
- We received contributions from 27 individual studies, several of which were part of ABoVE. The ABoVE domain was one of the most well-represented regions globally.

Synthesis
- We synthesized study results and identified remaining research challenges and recommended future directions. Studies were categorized into (i) Understanding contemporary fire patterns, drivers, and effects; (ii) Human influences on fire regimes; (iii) Changes in historical fire regimes; (iv) Future projections; (v) Novel techniques; and (vi) Reviews.

Significance
- As the scientific community's collective body of data and understanding evolves, synthesis is essential for assessing the state of knowledge and important future directions.

Regions covered by contributions in this ERL focus issue. Numbers in black text refer to studies covering the entire region of interest (red shaded areas), and numbers in blue text refer to studies covering a smaller area. Mean annual burned fraction from 1997-2016 was derived from van der Werf et al (2017).