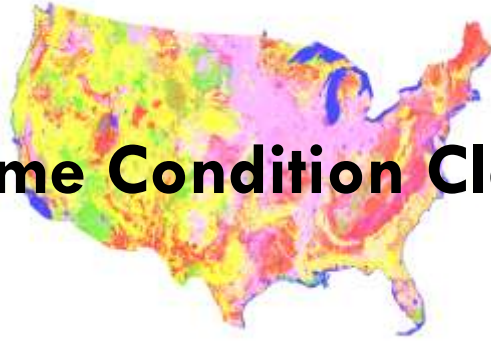# Fire Regime Condition Class (FRCC)

This Fire Regime Condition Class (FRCC) online course is designed to give the participant the background information necessary for understanding FRCC assessments, including an overview of what FRCC is and the various assessment methods; key theories, principles, and concepts; its role in policy and law; and FRCC resources. The course also covers assessment basics, including data inputs, sources, and outputs. In addition, the participant will conduct a simulated FRCC assessment for an actual landscape in either the eastern or western U.S. The course concludes with a discussion of how FRCC assessments can be applied in the real-world. See below for details on individual course lessons.

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Lesson 1: FRCC Overview

This introductory lesson provides background information on FRCC, including a discussion of fire regimes, FRCC and how it's determined, and some FRCC projects conducted to date. In addition, information is provided on FRCC's role in policy and law, the various assessment methods, and the FRCC website. The lesson has an associated reading.

Lesson 2: FRCC Components

This lesson covers key FRCC theories and principles that must be learned before conducting the simulated FRCC assessment later in the course. Discussion points include important reference condition concepts, the applicable scales for FRCC metrics, and how to identify and stratify assessment areas before beginning an assessment. Also covered are the necessary data inputs as well as available data sources. The participant then learns how the FRCC algorithm process works and looks at some representative photographic examples of condition classes. The lesson has an associated reading.

Lesson 3: FRCC Assessment Exercise

The lesson exercise teaches the participant how to use the FRCC Standard Landscape Guidebook Method, which is a scientifically based tool for determining ecological departure and fire regime condition classes for landscapes, strata, and stands. The participant learns how to determine ecological departure for a hypothetical assessment area, in either the eastern or western U.S., including the data entry process and how to compute the departure algorithms.

Lesson 4: FRCC Applications

The last lesson of the course provides details on the two custom software programs available for conducting FRCC assessments as well as practical applications of FRCC assessments at three management levels: the coarse-, mid-, and fine-scales.