

RESEARCH SEMINAR

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

GIScience in Extreme Wildfire Mitigation Through Targeted Fuels Treatment

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Wildfire risk is significant for forest and vegetative landscapes, particularly in regions where climate change is resulting in prolonged droughts and extended fire seasons that are a fire risk to people and property. An important component of mitigation is restoration programs that transition landscapes to be more fire resilient. GIScience has an important role in this process, particularly through the use of spatial optimization to identify areas critical for fuels treatment. Experience with the USDA Forest Service is reported. Application results highlight GIScience modeling capabilities and demonstrate insights possible.

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Alan Murray is a Professor in the Department of Geography at University of California at Santa Barbara. His research and teaching interests include: geographic information science; spatial optimization; emergency response, health informatics; urban growth and development; land use planning; urban, regional, and natural resource planning and development; and, infrastructure and transportation systems. He has received a number of awards from various organizations, is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science as well as a Fellow of the Regional Science Association International, and is the recipient of the Alonso Memorial Prize for Innovative Work in Regional Science, the Isard Award for Scholarly Achievement as well as the Hewings Award for Outstanding Young Scholar from the North American Regional Science Council.



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