

Rekindling Culture and Fire

Event Information

Rekindling Culture and Fire is CIBA's new initiative that promotes the reintroduction and increase of cultural burns to promote safe and healthy traditional gathering areas on public, tribal, and private lands in collaboration with California Indian basketweavers.

Rekindling Culture and Fire aims to:

- ▲ Build partnerships in communities where cultural-burn projects occur.
- ▲ Teach about the importance of traditional ecological knowledge to maintain basket gathering areas.
- ▲ Aid basketweavers in gaining access to traditional cultural burn sites.
- ▲ Help local cultural burn practitioners become advocates for Basketweavers.
- ▲ Share knowledge about land access, burning techniques and guidelines used for traditional burns.

Hosting a Rekindling Culture and Fire Event

The Rekindling Culture and Fire event is designed to take place over the course of two days.

The primary goal for each event is to create a safe space for learning, networking, and capacity building about the use of fire for basketweaving gathering areas.

The activities for each event are designed to be flexible, adapting to the needs of each host community, with the first day focused on education, and the second day focused on demonstrations or hands-on activities.



Here are sample activities for each day:

Day One

- ▲ Weaving workshops
- ▲ Presentations on traditional ecological knowledge
- ▲ Panel Discussion about cultural fire
- ▲ Weaving demonstrations
- ▲ Small group discussions about gathering basket materials
- ▲ Q & A with cultural fire practitioners and other experts
- ▲ Meet and greet with local, state, and federal agencies
- ▲ Discussion about pesticides in gathering areas

Day Two

- ▲ Demonstration cultural fire
- ▲ Discussion on how cultural fire practitioners plan, prepare, and carry out fire programs
- ▲ Mock or demonstration of a cultural fire burn
- ▲ Tour of burned sites
- ▲ Tour sites to identify gathering areas to burn
- ▲ Outdoor plant ID sessions
- ▲ Demonstration of gathering basket materials
- ▲ Gathering basket materials
- ▲ Prescribed and/or cultural fire training class



Logistics for Hosting a Rekindling Culture and Fire Event

Facilities

Rekindling Culture and Fire events need both an indoor and outdoor space to conduct activities on both days of the event.

Ideally the indoor space could accommodate up to 100 people, and have a commercial kitchen facility for continental breakfast, beverages, and light lunch preparation during the event.

Outdoor locations would ideally be ones in which a demonstration or mock cultural burn can take place relatively nearby. If that is not possible, other outdoor activities, such as plant ID walks, gathering demonstrations, or material processing, can be planned. We would like for these spaces to be able to accommodate all ages and abilities to ensure that youth and elders alike can participate.

A/V Equipment

On the first day of Rekindling Culture and Fire, presentations and panel discussions will take place. We ask that the venue provide A/V equipment and a volunteer throughout the day to assist with any technical questions or difficulties.

Accommodations

The Rekindling Culture and Fire program is intended to support local tribes and basketweavers, but there will be out of town guests as well. We ask that venues be close to hotels, motels, or campgrounds that can accommodate out of town guests attending both days of the event.

Speakers and Demonstrators

Through the Watershed Research and Training Center grant, CIBA can provide honoraria and a travel stipends for up to 6 speakers and basketweavers from the local area for demonstrations, panel discussions, and other activities.

CIBA is partnering with Torchbearr, a nonprofit whose vision is to build capacity, implement, and advocate for a smarter, safer, and more economical fire future, by creating a mobile prescribed training venue and workforce. Scot Steinbring and Erica Terence bring over 45 years of experience in conservation and fire management. Torchbearr will be available to work with communities, tribes, and private land owners who need more technical or operational expertise in prescribed burning, and will collaborate with those who have established fire programs. For more information about Torchbearr, see www.torchbearr.org

Volunteers

We ask that host locations provide volunteers each day of the event to help with set up, clean up, and tear down. Additionally, we ask that volunteers be prepared to assist elders with their needs during the event.

Contact Us

We look forward to working with you to design a Rekindling Culture and Fire event to accommodate your community's needs.

Please contact us:

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