

About Hugh: Hugh Safford is the senior vegetation ecologist (Regional Ecologist) for the USDA-Forest Service's Pacific Southwest Region (California, Hawaii, Pacific Islands), and a research faculty associate with the Department of Environmental Science and Policy, University of California-Davis. Safford manages a staff of ecologists that provide vegetation and fire ecology expertise to land management on the 18 national forests in California. His areas of professional expertise are community and landscape ecology, conservation biology, biogeography, and fire ecology. Hugh has worked for the last fifteen years studying past and future climate change, ranging from early Quaternary vegetation dynamics in Brazilian rainforest, to climate-fire interactions in the Sierra Nevada of California, to assessments of the likely impacts of future climates on invasive plant species and native meso-carnivores. Safford has a B.S. in geology from Montana State University, an M.A. in Secondary Education from San Francisco State University, and a Ph.D. in ecology from UC-Davis.