

Supplementary Materials: Short-term Belowground Responses to Thinning and Burning Treatments in Southwestern Ponderosa Pine Forests of the USA.

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Table S1. Stand and fuel characteristics at the Southwestern Plateau, Fire and Fire Surrogate study site. Treatment means (observed) are reported followed by standard errors in parentheses ($n = 3$). Size classes reported at diameter at breast height (DBH).

Properties	Control		Fire only		Thinning only		Thinning plus fire	
Stand	Pre	1 year	Pre	1 year	Pre	1 year	Pre	1 year
Tree density (trees ha ⁻¹)	655 (144)	654 (149)	600 (164)	562 (164)	563 (124)	189 (24)	440 (88)	140 (18)
Size class (trees ha ⁻¹)								
(0–9.9 cm DBH)	66.3 (56.9)	66.3 (56.9)	66.7 (43.4)	35.7 (18.9)	48.7 (22.4)	20.3 (17.9)	35.7 (17.2)	3.3 (1.8)
(10–19.9 cm DBH)	395.7 (166.2)	388.0 (165.0)	333.0 (201.3)	321.7 (191.8)	331.0 (163.3)	84.3 (35.7)	255.0 (128.4)	64.0 (16.5)
(20.0–29.9 cm DBH)	153.7 (13.4)	160.7 (15.1)	155.0 (4.4)	156.7 (7.0)	132.7 (26.5)	44.0 (8.5)	100.7 (18.2)	34.3 (4.3)
(30.0–39.9 cm DBH)	37.3 (14.3)	39.7 (15.7)	43.0 (19.7)	45.0 (20.7)	43.3 (17.8)	32.3 (13.6)	40.7 (19.5)	30.3 (13.5)
(> 40.0 cm DBH)	2.0 (1.0)	2.3 (1.3)	2.3 (0.3)	2.0 (1.0)	7.3 (3.0)	7.7 (2.9)	8.0 (1.0)	7.7 (0.9)
Basal area live (m ² ha ⁻¹)	29.6 (2.2)	30.7 (2.6)	29.1 (1.9)	29.3 (1.7)	29.3 (1.2)	14.3 (0.9)	24.6 (2.5)	12.6 (2.0)
Fuels [†]								
Forest floor (O horizon)	26.82	20.28	23.32	11.05	28.09	26.28	23.12	14.58
Mass (Mg ha ⁻¹)	(4.82)	(2.18)	(4.80)	(1.22)	(3.65)	(1.68)	(2.84)	(0.57)
1-h Fuel Mass (Mg ha ⁻¹)	0.22 (0.08)	*	0.21 (0.08)	0.15 (0.01)	0.27 (0.05)	0.693 (0.07)	0.22 (0.09)	0.38 (0.08)
10-h Fuel Mass (Mg ha ⁻¹)	1.74 (0.42)	*	1.77 (0.44)	1.13 (0.08)	1.74 (0.37)	4.6 (0.27)	1.70 (0.66)	2.73 (0.36)
100-h Fuel Mass (Mg ha ⁻¹)	2.34 (0.61)	*	3.12 (0.86)	1.52 (0.12)	3.76 (1.92)	8.37 (1.34)	4.13 (1.91)	4.66 (0.71)
1000-h Fuel Mass (Mg ha ⁻¹) Sound	4.32 (1.50)	*	5.48 (1.93)	2.45 (0.18)	6.02 (1.58)	4.92 (1.12)	3.64 (1.07)	1.62 (0.33)
1000-h Fuel mass (Mg ha ⁻¹) Rotten	1.77 (0.44)	*	2.14 (0.68)	0.33 (0.32)	2.93 (0.99)	1.33 (0.62)	1.81 (0.64)	0.21 (0.09)

[†] Fuel size classes: 1-hour fuels 0–0.635 cm dia; 10-hour fuels 0.635–2.54 cm dia; 100-hour fuels 2.54–7.62 cm dia; and 1000-hour fuels 7.62–5.24 cm dia. * denotes samples not taken.

Table S2. Forest floor (O horizon) and mineral soil (0–5 cm) horizon characteristics pre- and 2-year post-fuel reduction treatments at the Southwestern Plateau, Fire and Fire Surrogate study site. Treatment means (observed) are reported followed by standard errors in parentheses ($n = 3$). Measurement of pH for forest floor and mass for mineral soil (0–5 cm) were not performed.

	Time	Control	Fire only	Thinning only	Thinning plus fire
Forest Floor					
Mass (Mg ha ⁻¹)	Pre	5.43 (0.17)	8.00 (0.67)	7.95 (1.11)	7.06 (0.40)
	6 months	7.59 (1.26)	5.05 (0.05)	5.94 (0.12)	4.52 (0.58)
	1 year	6.52 (1.41)	4.72 (0.95)	5.97 (1.49)	6.81 (0.45)
	2 years	7.04 (1.55)	3.95 (0.05)	4.67 (0.09)	3.42 (0.58)
Total Carbon (g kg ⁻¹)	Pre	211.89 (9.76)	294.01 (17.34)	308.92 (49.58)	288.92 (27.40)
	6 months	226.66 (76.53)	131.25 (11.02)	153.83 (14.37)	140.11 (24.90)
	1 year	211.10 (62.13)	144.55 (28.66)	159.16 (29.61)	194.89 (13.43)
	2 years	214.23 (82.75)	102.95 (8.67)	121.14 (12.16)	104.81 (21.66)
Total Nitrogen (g kg ⁻¹)	Pre	5.19 (0.50)	6.66 (0.68)	8.32 (2.06)	6.69 (0.73)
	6 months	6.14 (1.24)	4.64 (0.27)	4.93 (0.40)	3.46 (0.20)
	1 year	5.95 (1.61)	4.72 (0.95)	5.10 (1.11)	6.69 (0.74)
	2 years	5.72 (1.42)	3.66 (0.20)	3.88 (0.35)	2.63 (0.27)
Carbon/Nitrogen mass ratio	Pre	41.36 (3.08)	44.59 (2.79)	38.80 (3.36)	43.35 (0.68)
	6 months	35.22 (5.55)	28.77 (4.29)	31.15 (0.51)	40.00 (4.95)
	1 year	35.19 (4.19)	30.70 (0.35)	31.87 (2.61)	29.44 (2.00)
	2 years	35.22 (5.55)	28.60 (4.12)	31.13 (0.49)	39.10 (4.07)
Mineral soil (0–5 cm)					
pH	Pre	5.53 (0.11)	5.62 (0.03)	5.44 (0.05)	5.50 (0.06)
	6 months	5.54 (0.17)	5.68 (0.09)	5.38 (0.14)	5.76 (0.02)
	1 year	5.49 (0.16)	5.59 (0.11)	5.40 (0.09)	5.47 (0.12)
	2 years	5.35 (0.09)	5.33 (0.05)	5.42 (0.10)	5.43 (0.08)
Total Carbon (g kg ⁻¹)	Pre	43.43 (3.35)	43.07 (5.76)	49.18 (4.57)	52.20 (7.38)
	6 months	57.20 (8.25)	47.61 (5.83)	70.02 (17.55)	41.28 (4.53)
	1 year	44.83 (5.26)	45.76 (7.68)	44.31 (8.89)	37.41 (5.24)
	2 years	36.01 (3.49)	43.76 (5.10)	45.01 (4.84)	39.89 (1.64)
Total Nitrogen (g kg ⁻¹)	Pre	1.91 (0.14)	2.02 (0.19)	2.05 (0.26)	2.20 (0.24)
	6 months	2.40 (0.10)	2.35 (0.20)	3.22 (0.64)	2.19 (0.19)
	1 year	1.88 (0.18)	2.06 (0.38)	1.70 (.20)	1.71 (0.16)
	2 years	1.84 (0.16)	2.01 (0.23)	1.99 (0.14)	1.88 (0.05)
Carbon/Nitrogen mass ratio	Pre	22.76 (0.20)	21.17 (1.16)	24.32 (2.36)	23.67 (1.64)
	6 months	23.67 (0.26)	20.10 (0.74)	21.21 (1.62)	18.81 (0.70)
	1 year	23.74 (0.57)	21.79 (1.03))	25.55 (2.09)	21.83 (1.49)
	2 years	21.70 (1.07)	22.08 (0.09)	22.61 (1.75)	21.29 (0.76)

Table S3. Mineral soil (0–5 cm) extractable base cations pre- and one-year post-fuel reduction treatments at the Southwestern Plateau, Fire and Fire Surrogate study site. Treatment means (observed) are reported followed by standard errors in parentheses ($n = 3$).

Cation (cmol kg ⁻¹)	Time	Control	Fire only	Thinning only	Thinning plus fire
Extractable Ca	Pre	4.475 (0.046)	4.495 (0.035)	4.529 (0.015)	4.423 (0.093)
	1 year	4.632 (0.113)	4.590 (0.094)	4.516 (0.001)	4.523 (0.007)
Extractable Mg	Pre	0.596 (0.001)	0.600 (0.001)	0.597 (0.003)	0.575 (0.019)
	1 year	0.611 (0.017)	0.614 (0.024)	0.593 (<0.001)	0.597 (0.003)
Extractable K	Pre	0.185 (0.002)	0.185 (0.002)	0.187 (<0.001)	0.187 (0.002)
	1 year	0.189 (0.002)	0.187 (<0.001)	0.187 (<0.001)	0.187 (<0.001)
Extractable Na	Pre	0.086 (0.001)	0.086 (0.001)	0.085 (<0.001)	0.084 (0.001)
	1 year	0.085 (<0.001)	0.087 (0.002)	0.085 (<0.001)	0.085 (<0.001)
Cation Exchange Capacity	Pre	5.362 (0.035)	5.362 (0.035)	5.398 (0.019)	5.392 (0.010)
	1 year	5.518 (0.132)	5.478 (0.120)	5.382 (0.002)	5.392 (0.010)