

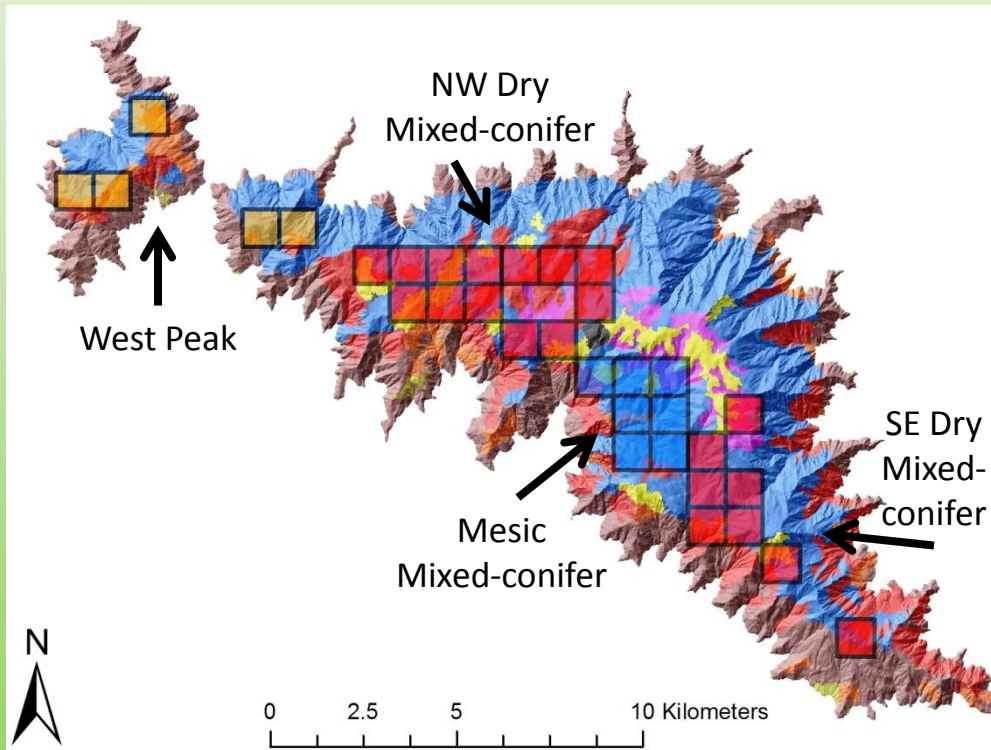
# How fire exclusion transformed the mixed-conifer forests of the Pinaleño Mountains

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## Mixed conifer forests of the Pinaleño Mountains



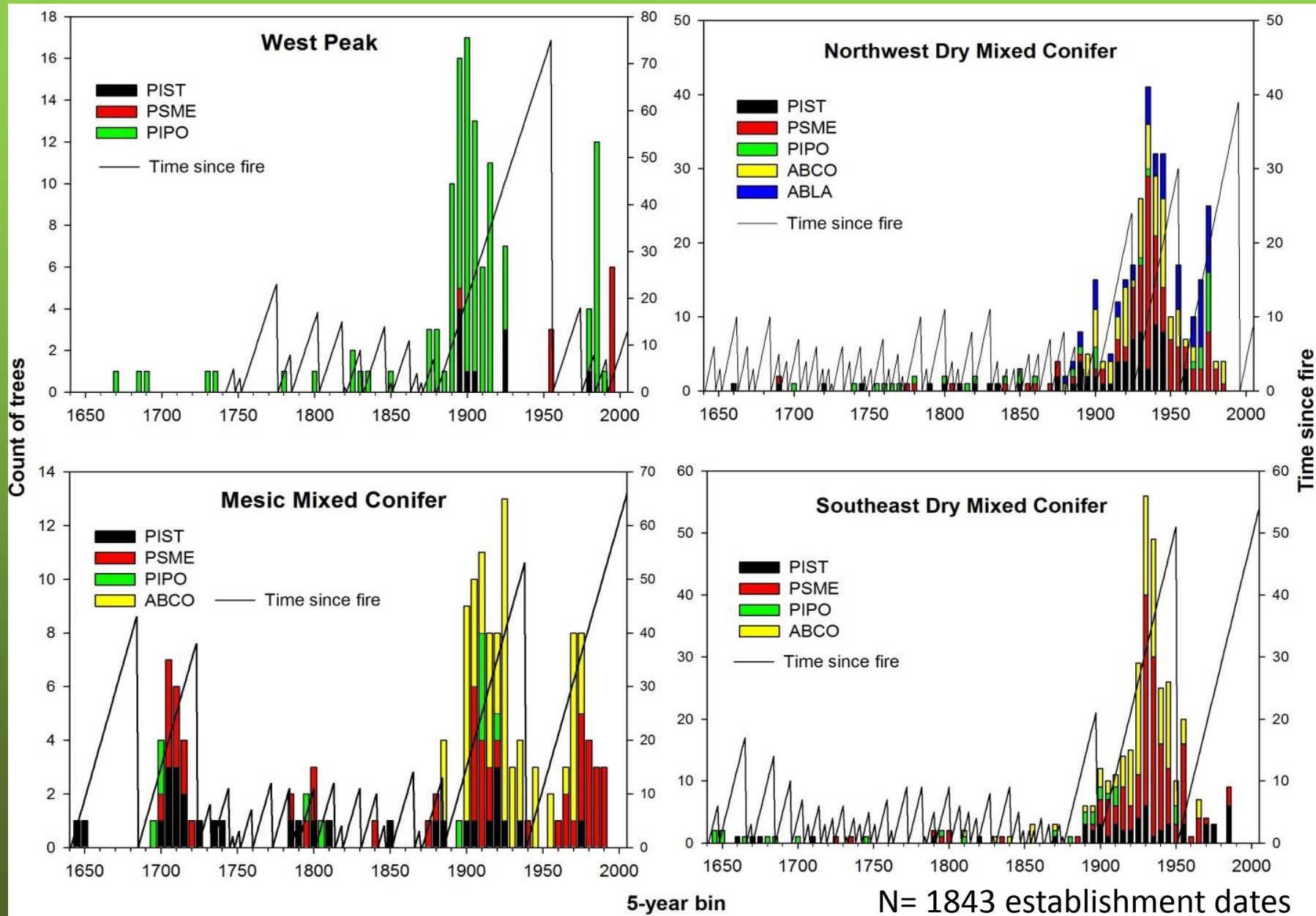
## Current forest structure



### Distinct:

- Species
- Successional pathways
- Disturbance regimes

# Recruitment and fire





# The long view

Under changing climate in the Southwest we are expecting more shifts in fire and forest dynamics:

## Fire

- Size (+)
- Severity (variable)
- Frequency (+)

## Species

- Shade tolerant (-)
- Shade intolerant (+)

- Expected fire and species changes for the next century are opposite from those over the past 130 years.
- Intensive restoration efforts may help slow the effects of changing climate but the question remains:
- Is it possible to restore past disturbance dynamics or are we into a new paradigm for species assemblages and disturbance regimes?