

Prescribed fire (Rx) operates within a complex multiteam system (MTS) requiring coordination & communication across multiple entities



Rx Fire involves intentionally lighting fires to

- ↓ fuels that would lead to catastrophic wildfires
- mimic natural fire processes for a healthy, resilient ecosystem

A **multiteam system** is a team of teams working together to achieve higher order goals

Challenge

Climate change & land fragmentation continue to ↑ Rx fire complexity which may contribute to burner strain

Need

While importance of Rx fire teams continues to ↑, no research exists on Rx fire team stress & well-being

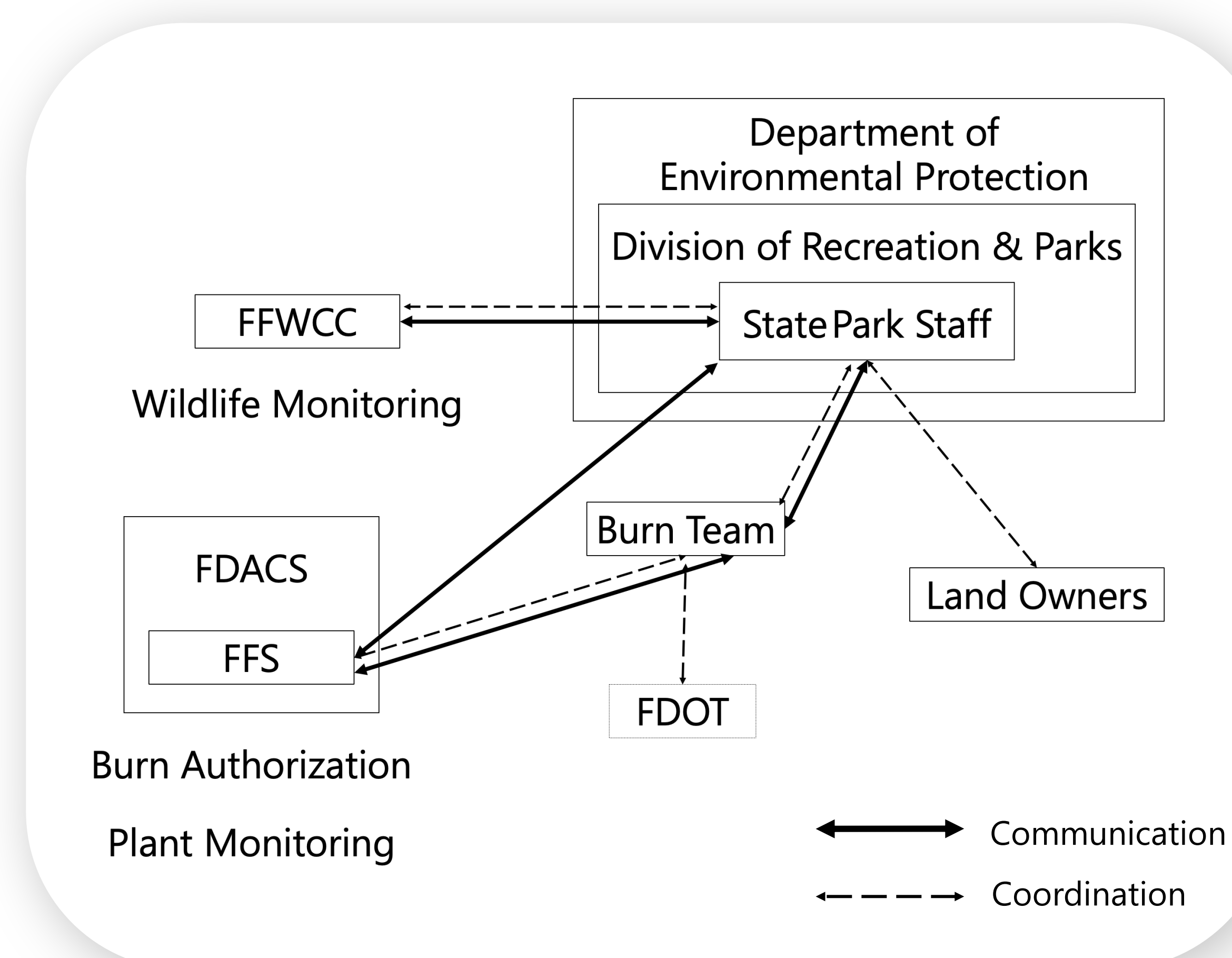
Primary Research Question

What stressors do Rx fire teams face when planning & conducting Rx fires, & how do they enact resilience to overcome challenges & sustain performance and well-being?

Method

- Community-centered participatory research approach
- Reviewed **198** publicly available land management plans of **State Parks** (161) & **State Forests** (37) in Florida to identify teamwork linkages
- Conducting interviews with prescribed fire professionals June & July to understand stressors and Rx fire team resilience

Example network diagram showing MTS coordination & communication linkages



Implications

We anticipate that findings from this study will inform not only our understanding of resilience in Rx fire but also in MTSs facing complex challenges while striving to keep communities healthy and safe.

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