**HEATHER D. ALEXANDER**

Associate Professor of Forest & Fire Ecology, Auburn University

602 Duncan Dr., Auburn, AL 36832

Phone: (334) 844-1040; E-mail: [heather.alexander@auburn.edu](mailto:heather.alexander@auburn.edu)

Website: <https://forestfireecology.auburn.edu/>

**Professional Preparation**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| University of Texas | Austin, TX | Biology | B.S., 1996 |
| University of Texas | Austin, TX | Marine Science | M.S., 2000 |
| University of Kentucky | Lexington, KY | Biology | Ph.D., 2008 |
| University of Florida | Gainesville, FL | Forest Ecology | Post-doc, 2009-2012 |
|  |  |  |  |

**Appointments**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 2023-Present | Dwain G. Luce Endowed Professorship of Forestry, Auburn University, Auburn, AL |
| 2022-Present | Associate Professor of Forest & Fire Ecology, Auburn University, Auburn, AL |
| 2020-2022 | Assistant Professor of Forest Ecology, Auburn University, Auburn, AL |
| 2019-2020 | Associate Professor of Forest Ecology, Mississippi State University, MS |
| 2015-2019 | Assistant Professor of Forest Ecology, Mississippi State University, MS |
| 2012-2015 | Assistant Professor, University of Texas - Brownsville, Brownsville, TX |

**Product: Most Closely Related to Proposed Project**

1. Cabrera, S. M., **Alexander, H. D.**, Willis, J. L., Anderson, C. J. 2023. Midstory removal of encroaching species has minimal impacts on fuels and fire behavior regardless of burn season in a degraded pine-oak mixture. *Forest Ecology and Management* 544: 121157.
2. Willis, J. L., Renninger, H. J., Schnake, D. K, **Alexander, H. D.** 2023. Xerophytic hardwood retention promotes competition over facilitation in longleaf pine woodlands in the absence of fire. *Forest Ecology and Management* 531: 120732.
3. Fan, J., Song, A., Dong, L., **Alexander, H. D.**, Yang, S., Cheng, N., Pitchford, J. L. 2021. Fire effects on post-invasion spread of Chinese tallow (*Triadica sebifera*) in wet pine flatwood ecosystems in the southeastern United States. *Forest Ecology and Management* 500: 119658.
4. **Alexander, H. D.**, Siegert, C., Brewer, S., Kreye, J., Lashley, M., McDaniel, J., Paulson, A., Renninger, H., Varner, M. 2021. Mesophication of oak landscapes: Evidence, knowledge gaps, and future research. *BioScience* 1-12.
5. Hanberry, B., **Alexander, H. D.,** Bragg, D. C. 2020.Open forest ecosystems: an excluded state with conservation costs. *Forest Ecology and Management* 472: 118256.

**Other Significant Products: Whether or Not Related to Proposed Project**

1. Webb, E. E., **Alexander, H. D.**, #Paulson, A. K., Loranty, M. M., DeMarco, J., Talucci, A. C., Spektor, V., Zimov, N. Lichstein, J. W. 2024. Carbon loss and tree mortality following fire in Siberian larch forests. *Geophysical Research Letters* 51(1): e2023GL105216.
2. Goldsmith, C., **Alexander, H. D.**, Granger, J., Siegert, C. 2023. Impacts of *Microstegium vimineum* on performance of three hardwood species under different growth environments. *Forest Ecology and Management* 539: 120984.
3. Babl-Plauche, E., **Alexander, H. D.**, Willis, J., Berry, A. 2022. Mesophication of upland oak

forests: implications of species-specific differences in leaf litter decomposition rates and fuelbed composition. Forest Ecology and Management 512: 120141.

1. Baltzer, J. L., Day, N. J., Walker, X. J., Mack, M. C., **Alexander, H. D.**, Arsenault, D., Barnes, J., Boucher, Y., Bourgeau-Chavez, L., Brown, C. D., Carrière, S., Howard, B., Greene, D., Gauthier, S., Parisien, M. A., Reid, K. A., Rogers, B. M., Roland, C., Sirois, L., Stehn, S., Thompson, D., Turetsky, M. R., Veraverbeke, S., Whitman, E. J., Yang, J., Johnstone, J. F. 2021. Increasing fire and the decline of fire adapted black spruce in the boreal forest. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 118(45): e2024872118.
2. Mack, M. C., Walker, X. J., Johnstone, J. F., **Alexander, H. D.**, Melvin, A. M., Jean, M., Miller, S. N. 2021. Carbon loss from boreal forest wildfires offset by increased dominance of deciduous trees. *Science* 372 (6539): 280-283.

**Synergistic Activities**

1. Elected to Advisory Boards of the Mississippi Prescribed Fire Council (2015 – 2020), Alabama Prescribed Fire Council (2020 – 2024), Longleaf Partnership Council of America’s Longleaf Restoration Initiative (2024-2026), and Consortium of Appalachian Fire Managers and Scientists User Board (2024-2026)
2. Associate Editor of two international journals, *Canadian Journal of Forest Research* and *Fire Ecology* (2020 – Present)
3. Invited member of planning committees for two national (2023 and 2019 Fire in Eastern Oak Forests) and one international (2021 International Fire Congress) conferences
4. Chaired Organized Special Sessions and Symposiums at three international meetings (2019 American Geophysical Union; 2018 and 2023 Ecological Society of America)
5. Gave ~30 talks, webinars, and podcast/video interviews related to forest management and sustainability geared toward the public, landowners, and land managers, and worked with journalists to write and disseminate >10 articles/videos featuring research findings in mainstream media outlets