

Robert E. Keane, Ph.D., Research Ecologist with the USDA Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station at the Missoula Fire Sciences Laboratory

Bio:

Robert E. Keane has been a Research Ecologist with the USDA Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Research Station at the Missoula Fire Sciences Laboratory since 1994. His most recent research includes 1) developing ecological computer simulation models for the exploring landscape, fire, and climate dynamics, 2) conducting basic research in wildland fuel science, and 3) investigating the ecology and restoration of whitebark pine. He received his B.S. degree in forest engineering from the University of Maine, Orono; his M.S. degree in forest ecology from the University of Montana, Missoula; and his Ph.D. degree in forest ecology from the University of Idaho, Moscow.

Title:

Effective practices for managing high elevation five needle pines in western North America

Story:

Why I work in high elevation forests? I blame Steve Arno for infecting me with the whitebark pine bug. He brought me to some of his study sites in the mid-1980s and I've been captivated ever since. Besides being an incredible place to work with great views and cool summer days, the ecosystem is so interesting and diverse – every time I visit a new whitebark pine stand, I find something totally new that I've never seen before.