

APPENDIX 2. Elements of traditional fire knowledge recorded in each of 35 studies, organized by continent.

Table A.1. Elements of traditional fire knowledge recorded in studies from Africa (n=6).

Reference	Kull 2002	Butz 2009	Mbow 2000	Eriksen 2007	Laris 2002	Hough 1993	Africa Composite	
	Madagascar	Tanzania	Senegal	Zambia	Mali	West Africa	Composite	Number of studies recording each element
Elements of Traditional Fire Knowledge \ Country	Madagascar	Tanzania	Senegal	Zambia	Mali	West Africa	Composite	Number of studies recording each element
Geology, Topography, Soil								
Soil type, moisture			X		X		X	2
Slope	X						X	1
Geologic substrate, landform								
Elevation								
Aspect	X						X	1
Soil temperature, frozen or thawed	X						X	1
Vegetation, Fuels								
Moisture of live or dead fuels	X	X	X	X	X		X	5
Plant or animal phenology	X	X	X		X		X	4
Fuel composition, species		X			X		X	2
Fuel load		X		X			X	2
Fuel or vegetation structure, arrangement, continuity, height			X				X	1
Fuel consumption: degree, speed, patchiness	X						X	1
Fuel diameter or size (e.g., logs vs. grass)	X						X	1
Vegetation type			X				X	1
Weather								

Season of the year	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	6
Onset or end of rainy season, dry season, timing of rain	X				X	X	X	3
Wind speed, force	X	X		X			X	3
Wind direction, source	X						X	1
Temperature	X	X					X	2
Humidity of air, day	X	X					X	2
Water level, stream flow, river cycle								
Quantity of rain		X					X	1
Snow or ice location, condition (including melting or breakup)								
Lightning								
Phase of moon								
Sun's force and position in sky								
Clouds								
Fire Behavior								
Fire intensity, heat output (hot or cool fire)	X	X	X	X		X	X	5
Frequency, return interval, time since fire	X	X					X	2
Fire size, area, aerial extent		X					X	1
Fire type (surface, ground, canopy)	X						X	1
Backing, heading fire	X			X			X	2
Direction of fire spread (including landmarks)	X						X	1
Flame height								
Rate of spread	X						X	1
Natural extinguishment								
Residence time								
Evenness, smoothness								
Spotting, sparks, embers carried aloft								
Fire Operations								
Fire control	X	X	X	X			X	4
Firebreaks, barriers	X	X		X			X	3
Time of day	X	X					X	2
Landscape pattern, patch size	X	X			X		X	3

Tools for preparation, ignition, control	X							X	1
Crew size, use of neighbors	X	X						X	2
Ignition pattern	X							X	1
Spatio-temporal sequence of fires, including for prevention	X					X		X	2
Danger, risk, destructive potential				X		X		X	2
Fire placement				X				X	1
Planning, monitoring conditions prior to burning									
Site preparation									
Fire duration									
Special clothing									
Fire Effects									
Fire effects on vegetation	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	5
Fire effects on animals	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	6
Consequences of not burning	X	X	X			X		X	4
Fire effects on soil	X				X			X	2
Smoke effects, smoke color, smoke column characteristics									
Scorch height, bark char, smoked leaves									
Fire effects on watershed, water delivery	X							X	1
Fire Governance, Other Social Factors									
Burning illegal or regulated by central government	X	X	X			X	X	X	5
Gender roles in fire management	X							X	1
Land stewardship, care, cleaning up country, controlling space	X						X	X	2
Knowledge transmission	X							X	1
Burning regulated internally by community									
Fire as tool in social resistance, protest, local conflict	X					X	X	X	3
Authority, decision to burn		X			X			X	2
Age of participants									
Prohibited areas (customary, sacred, community safety)									
Number of elements recorded	37	21	14	12	14	8		47	47

Table A.2. Elements of traditional fire knowledge recorded in studies from Asia (n=6).

Reference	Therik 2000	Masipiqueña et al. 2000	Rai et al. 2007	Setty et al. 2008	Maxwell 2004	Rodgers 1986	Asia Composite	
	East Timor and Indonesia	Philippines	India	India	Cambodia	India	Composite	Number of studies recording each element
Elements of Traditional Fire Knowledge \ Country	Indonesia	Philippines	India	India	Cambodia	India	Composite	Number of studies recording each element
Geology, Topography, Soil								
Soil type, moisture		X					X	1
Slope	X						X	1
Geologic substrate, landform		X					X	1
Elevation								
Aspect								
Soil temperature, frozen or thawed								
Vegetation, Fuels								
Moisture of live or dead fuels	X						X	1
Plant or animal phenology	X	X					X	2
Fuel composition, species	X			X			X	2
Fuel load	X		X				X	2
Fuel or vegetation structure, arrangement, continuity, height	X			X	X		X	3
Fuel consumption: degree, speed, patchiness								
Fuel diameter or size (e.g., logs vs. grass)	X						X	1
Vegetation type		X	X				X	2
Weather								
Season of the year		X	X		X	X	X	4
Onset or end of rainy season, dry season, timing of rain	X	X	X				X	3

Ignition pattern	X							X	1
Spatio-temporal sequence of fires, including for prevention		X						X	1
Danger, risk, destructive potential	X							X	1
Fire placement		X						X	1
Planning, monitoring conditions prior to burning									
Site preparation	X							X	1
Fire duration									
Special clothing									
Fire Effects									
Fire effects on vegetation	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	6
Fire effects on animals		X	X				X	X	3
Consequences of not burning			X			X		X	2
Fire effects on soil		X						X	1
Smoke effects, smoke color, smoke column characteristics									
Scorch height, bark char, smoked leaves									
Fire effects on watershed, water delivery									
Fire Governance, Other Social Factors									
Burning illegal or regulated by central government		X	X	X			X	X	4
Gender roles in fire management									
Land stewardship, care, cleaning up country, controlling space						X		X	1
Knowledge transmission									
Burning regulated internally by community		X						X	1
Fire as tool in social resistance, protest, local conflict		X						X	1
Authority, decision to burn									
Age of participants									
Prohibited areas (customary, sacred, community safety)	X							X	1
Number of elements recorded	19	18	9	8	6	5		38	38

Table A.3. Elements of traditional fire knowledge recorded in studies from Australia (n=5).

Reference	Garde 2009	Haynes 1985	Hill et al. 1999	Russell-Smith 1997	Yibaruk et al. 2001	Australia Composite	
	Australia	Australia	Australia	Australia	Australia	Composite	Number of studies recording each element
Geology, Topography, Soil							
Soil type, moisture	X			X		X	2
Slope	X					X	1
Geologic substrate, landform	X		X	X		X	3
Elevation	X				X	X	2
Aspect							
Soil temperature, frozen or thawed							
Vegetation, Fuels							
Moisture of live or dead fuels	X		X	X	X	X	4
Plant or animal phenology	X	X		X	X	X	4
Fuel composition, species	X	X	X	X		X	4
Fuel load	X		X	X	X	X	4
Fuel or vegetation structure, arrangement, continuity, height	X		X			X	2
Fuel consumption: degree, speed, patchiness	X	X				X	2
Fuel diameter or size (e.g., logs vs. grass)							
Vegetation type		X				X	1
Weather							
Season of the year	X	X	X	X	X	X	5
Onset or end of rainy season, dry season, timing of rain	X	X			X	X	3

Wind speed, force	X		X	X		X	3
Wind direction, source	X			X		X	2
Temperature	X			X		X	2
Humidity of air, day	X			X		X	2
Water level, stream flow, river cycle	X			X		X	2
Quantity of rain	X			X		X	2
Snow or ice location, condition (including melting or breakup)							
Lightning				X		X	1
Phase of moon							
Sun's force and position in sky	X					X	1
Clouds							
Fire Behavior							
Fire intensity, heat output (hot or cool fire)	X	X	X		X	X	4
Frequency, return interval, time since fire	X	X				X	2
Fire size, area, aerial extent	X	X	X		X	X	4
Fire type (surface, ground, canopy)	X	X	X	X		X	4
Backing, heading fire	X			X		X	2
Direction of fire spread (including landmarks)	X					X	1
Flame height	X	X		X		X	3
Rate of spread	X			X		X	2
Natural extinguishment		X				X	1
Residence time							
Evenness, smoothness							
Spotting, sparks, embers carried aloft							
Fire Operations							
Fire control	X	X	X	X	X	X	5
Firebreaks, barriers	X	X	X	X		X	4
Time of day	X	X		X		X	3
Landscape pattern, patch size	X	X	X	X	X	X	5
Tools for preparation, ignition, control	X	X	X			X	3
Crew size, use of neighbors	X		X			X	2

Ignition pattern	X	X	X			X	3
Spatio-temporal sequence of fires, including for prevention	X	X				X	2
Danger, risk, destructive potential	X		X			X	2
Fire placement		X				X	1
Planning, monitoring conditions prior to burning	X				X	X	2
Site preparation							
Fire duration							
Special clothing							
Fire Effects							
Fire effects on vegetation	X	X	X	X	X	X	5
Fire effects on animals	X	X	X	X	X	X	5
Consequences of not burning	X		X	X	X	X	4
Fire effects on soil	X					X	1
Smoke effects, smoke color, smoke column characteristics							
Scorch height, bark char, smoked leaves		X				X	1
Fire effects on watershed, water delivery							
Fire Governance, Other Social Factors							
Burning illegal or regulated by central government			X			X	1
Gender roles in fire management	X		X	X		X	3
Land stewardship, care, cleaning up country, controlling space		X				X	1
Knowledge transmission	X		X			X	2
Burning regulated internally by community	X		X			X	2
Fire as tool in social resistance, protest, local conflict							
Authority, decision to burn		X	X			X	2
Age of participants			X			X	1
Prohibited areas (customary, sacred, community safety)		X				X	1
Number of elements recorded	44	26	26	26	14	54	54

Table A.4. Elements of traditional fire knowledge recorded in studies from Europe (n=5). Elements tallied from Pyne (1997) included specific accounts from eight countries: Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Poland, Spain and Sweden.

Elements of Traditional Fire Knowledge \ Country	Reference	Pyne 1997	Grove and Rackham 2001	Vélez 2005	Forbes and Koster 1976	Liacos 1973	Europe Composite	Number of studies recording each element
		Eight European Countries	Mediterranean Basin: Italy, Greece, France, Spain	Various: Spain, Mediterranean Basin, Europe	Greece	Greece	Composite	
Geology, Topography, Soil								
Soil type, moisture		X					X	1
Slope		X			X		X	2
Geologic substrate, landform								
Elevation								
Aspect								
Soil temperature, frozen or thawed								
Vegetation, Fuels								
Moisture of live or dead fuels		X					X	1
Plant or animal phenology								
Fuel composition, species		X					X	1
Fuel load		X					X	1
Fuel or vegetation structure, arrangement, continuity, height		X					X	1
Fuel consumption: degree, speed, patchiness		X					X	1
Fuel diameter or size (e.g., logs vs. grass)		X					X	1
Vegetation type								
Weather								
Season of the year		X	X	X		X	X	4
Onset or end of rainy season, dry season, timing of rain		X	X				X	2
Wind speed, force		X					X	1
Wind direction, source		X					X	1

Temperature	X				X	1
Humidity of air, day						
Water level, stream flow, river cycle	X				X	1
Quantity of rain						
Snow or ice location, condition (including melting or breakup)						
Lightning						
Phase of moon						
Sun's force and position in sky						
Clouds						
Fire Behavior						
Fire intensity, heat output (hot or cool fire)						
Frequency, return interval, time since fire	X				X	1
Fire size, area, aerial extent				X	X	1
Fire type (surface, ground, canopy)	X				X	1
Backing, heading fire	X				X	1
Direction of fire spread (including landmarks)						
Flame height						
Rate of spread						
Natural extinguishment						
Residence time						
Evenness, smoothness	X				X	1
Spotting, sparks, embers carried aloft						
Fire Operations						
Fire control	X			X	X	2
Firebreaks, barriers	X				X	1
Time of day		X		X	X	2
Landscape pattern, patch size	X				X	1
Tools for preparation, ignition, control	X				X	1
Crew size, use of neighbors	X			X	X	2
Ignition pattern	X				X	1
Spatio-temporal sequence of fires, including for prevention	X				X	1

Danger, risk, destructive potential								
Fire placement								
Planning, monitoring conditions prior to burning								
Site preparation	X						X	1
Fire duration	X						X	1
Special clothing	X						X	1
Fire Effects								
Fire effects on vegetation	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	5
Fire effects on animals	X	X				X	X	3
Consequences of not burning								
Fire effects on soil	X						X	1
Smoke effects, smoke color, smoke column characteristics	X						X	1
Scorch height, bark char, smoked leaves								
Fire effects on watershed, water delivery								
Fire Governance, Other Social Factors								
Burning illegal or regulated by central government	X	X	X				X	3
Gender roles in fire management		X					X	1
Land stewardship, care, cleaning up country, controlling space								
Knowledge transmission								
Burning regulated internally by community								
Fire as tool in social resistance, protest, local conflict	X		X				X	2
Authority, decision to burn								
Age of participants								
Prohibited areas (customary, sacred, community safety)								
Number of elements recorded	34	7	6	4	3		37	37

Table A.5. Elements of traditional fire knowledge recorded in studies from North America (n=8).

Reference	Huffman	Miller and Davidson	Anderson	Lake	Turner	Lewis and Ferguson	Stewart	Cabrera- Garcia and Frias	N. America Composite	Number of studies recording each element
	2010	-Hunt 2010	2005	2007	1999	1988 Canada and USA (excludes content on Australia)	2002	2004		
Elements of Traditional Fire Knowledge \ Country	Mexico	Canada	USA	USA	Canada	Australia)	USA	Mexico	Composit e	
Geology, Topography, Soil										
Soil type, moisture	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	6
Slope	X	X	X	X	X				X	5
Geologic substrate, landform		X		X			X		X	3
Elevation			X	X	X				X	3
Aspect	X			X					X	2
Soil temperature, frozen or thawed		X							X	1
Vegetation, Fuels										
Moisture of live or dead fuels	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	7
Plant or animal phenology	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	6
Fuel composition, species	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	6
Fuel load	X		X	X		X			X	4
Fuel or vegetation structure, arrangement, continuity, height	X		X	X		X	X		X	5
Fuel consumption: degree, speed, patchiness	X	X	X	X					X	4
Fuel diameter or size (e.g., logs vs. grass)	X		X	X	X	X			X	5
Vegetation type	X	X	X	X		X			X	5
Weather										
Season of the year	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8
Onset or end of rainy season, dry season, timing of rain	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	7
Wind speed, force	X	X	X					X	X	4

Wind direction, source	X	X	X	X	X				X	5
Temperature	X	X		X					X	3
Humidity of air, day	X							X	X	2
Water level, stream flow, river cycle		X		X					X	2
Quantity of rain	X			X					X	2
Snow or ice location, condition (including melting or breakup)		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	6
Lightning		X		X		X			X	3
Phase of moon										
Sun's force and position in sky	X								X	1
Clouds										
Fire Behavior										
Fire intensity, heat output (hot or cool fire)	X		X	X	X				X	4
Frequency, return interval, time since fire	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8
Fire size, area, aerial extent	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	6
Fire type (surface, ground, canopy)	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	6
Backing, heading fire	X		X		X				X	3
Direction of fire spread (including landmarks)	X	X	X				X		X	4
Flame height	X				X				X	2
Rate of spread	X	X	X						X	3
Natural extinguishment		X		X		X	X		X	4
Residence time		X				X			X	2
Evenness, smoothness								X	X	1
Spotting, sparks, embers carried aloft		X							X	1
Fire Operations										
Fire control	X	X	X						X	3
Firebreaks, barriers	X	X	X	X	X				X	5
Time of day	X	X		X	X				X	4
Landscape pattern, patch size		X				X		X	X	3
Tools for preparation, ignition, control	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	6
Crew size, use of neighbors	X		X		X	X	X		X	5
Ignition pattern	X		X			X	X		X	4

Spatio-temporal sequence of fires, including for prevention			X					X	X	2
Danger, risk, destructive potential		X	X				X		X	3
Fire placement		X	X	X	X		X		X	5
Planning, monitoring conditions prior to burning	X	X							X	2
Site preparation			X						X	1
Fire duration		X					X		X	2
Special clothing										
Fire Effects										
Fire effects on vegetation	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8
Fire effects on animals	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	7
Consequences of not burning	X		X	X	X	X			X	6
Fire effects on soil		X	X	X	X				X	5
Smoke effects, smoke color, smoke column characteristics		X		X	X				X	3
Scorch height, bark char, smoked leaves	X	X							X	2
Fire effects on watershed, water delivery			X						X	1
Fire Governance, Other Social Factors										
Burning illegal or regulated by central government	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	8
Gender roles in fire management	X		X	X					X	3
Land stewardship, care, cleaning up country, controlling space	X	X	X	X	X				X	5
Knowledge transmission	X		X	X	X				X	4
Burning regulated internally by community	X	X			X				X	3
Fire as tool in social resistance, protest, local conflict							X			1
Authority, decision to burn	X								X	1
Age of participants	X								X	1
Prohibited areas (customary, sacred, community safety)		X							X	1
Number of elements recorded	45	43	40	39	29	27	18	12	65	66

Table A.6. Elements of traditional fire knowledge recorded in studies from South America (n=5).

Element of Traditional Fire Knowledge	\Country	Reference					S. America Composite	Number of studies recording each element
		Otterstrom 2004	Mistry et al. 2005	Pivello 2011	McDaniel et al. 2005	Reina 1967		
		Nicaragua	Brazil	Brazil	Bolivia	Guatemala	Composite	
Geology, Topography, Soil								
Soil type, moisture					X	X	X	2
Slope								
Geologic substrate, landform								
Elevation								
Aspect								
Soil temperature, frozen or thawed								
Vegetation, Fuels								
Moisture of live or dead fuels		X	X	X	X		X	4
Plant or animal phenology			X	X			X	2
Fuel composition, species					X		X	1
Fuel load		X					X	1
Fuel or vegetation structure, arrangement, continuity, height				X		X	X	2
Fuel consumption: degree, speed, patchiness		X	X	X	X		X	4
Fuel diameter or size (e.g., logs vs. grass)				X			X	1
Vegetation type								
Weather								
Season of the year		X	X	X	X	X	X	5
Onset or end of rainy season, dry season, timing of rain		X		X	X	X	X	4
Wind speed, force		X	X				X	2
Wind direction, source		X		X		X	X	3

Temperature	X					X	1
Humidity of air, day	X			X		X	2
Water level, stream flow, river cycle			X			X	1
Quantity of rain	X					X	1
Snow or ice location, condition (including melting or breakup)							
Lightning							
Phase of moon	X	X			X	X	3
Sun's force and position in sky	X					X	1
Clouds			X			X	1
Fire Behavior							
Fire intensity, heat output (hot or cool fire)	X	X	X	X		X	4
Frequency, return interval, time since fire	X	X	X	X		X	4
Fire size, area, aerial extent	X			X		X	2
Fire type (surface, ground, canopy)							
Backing, heading fire	X	X		X		X	3
Direction of fire spread (including landmarks)					X	X	1
Flame height	X			X		X	2
Rate of spread							
Natural extinguishment							
Residence time							
Evenness, smoothness							
Spotting, sparks, embers carried aloft							
Fire Operations							
Fire control	X	X		X	X	X	4
Firebreaks, barriers	X	X	X	X	X	X	5
Time of day	X	X		X	X	X	4
Landscape pattern, patch size		X	X			X	2
Tools for preparation, ignition, control	X	X			X	X	3
Crew size, use of neighbors	X	X				X	2
Ignition pattern	X	X			X	X	3
Spatio-temporal sequence of fires, including for prevention			X			X	1

Danger, risk, destructive potential	X					X	1
Fire placement							
Planning, monitoring conditions prior to burning	X					X	1
Site preparation			X		X	X	2
Fire duration							
Special clothing							
Fire Effects							
Fire effects on vegetation	X	X	X	X		X	4
Fire effects on animals	X	X	X	X	X	X	5
Consequences of not burning	X	X		X		X	3
Fire effects on soil	X	X	X	X	X	X	5
Smoke effects, smoke color, smoke column characteristics					X	X	1
Scorch height, bark char, smoked leaves							
Fire effects on watershed, water delivery							
Fire Governance, Other Social Factors							
Burning illegal or regulated by central government		X				X	1
Gender roles in fire management	X	X	X		X	X	4
Land stewardship, care, cleaning up country, controlling space							
Knowledge transmission		X				X	1
Burning regulated internally by community			X		X	X	2
Fire as tool in social resistance, protest, local conflict			X			X	1
Authority, decision to burn		X	X			X	2
Age of participants	X					X	1
Prohibited areas (customary, sacred, community safety)							
Number of elements recorded		24	23	19	18	48	48

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