

## Supplementary Material

### **Past fire shaping future fuel: influence of recent fire history on forest foliage chemistry**

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**Table S1.** Model selection table for Log Carbon:Nitrogen. Top ranked models with a delta less than 2.5 shown. '+' indicates the term's presence in the model. Type = Fresh or Litter, FF = Fire Frequency, TSF = Time Since Fire. Elevation and DBH (diameter at breast height) were scaled in the model. Bolded model indicates most parsimonious model. Random terms for each model were Tree/Site

| cnd((Int))   | dsp((Int)) | FF       | DBH            | Elevation | TSF | Type     | FF:TSF | FF:Type  | df       | logLik        | AICc          | delta       | weight       |
|--------------|------------|----------|----------------|-----------|-----|----------|--------|----------|----------|---------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|
| 3.962        | +          | +        | 0.02684        | 0.03037   |     | +        |        | +        | 9        | 76.294        | -133.7        | 0.00        | 0.365        |
| 3.951        | +          | +        | 0.02752        |           | +   | +        |        | +        | 9        | 75.707        | -132.6        | 1.17        | 0.203        |
| <b>3.974</b> | <b>+</b>   | <b>+</b> | <b>0.02934</b> |           |     | <b>+</b> |        | <b>+</b> | <b>8</b> | <b>74.548</b> | <b>-132.4</b> | <b>1.32</b> | <b>0.189</b> |
| 3.963        | +          | +        | 0.02685        | 0.03180   | +   | +        |        | +        | 10       | 76.295        | -131.5        | 2.19        | 0.122        |
| 3.966        | +          | +        | 0.02626        |           | +   | +        | +      | +        | 10       | 76.290        | -131.5        | 2.20        | 0.121        |

**Table S2.** Model selection table for Log Carbon:Phosphorus. Top ranked models with a delta less than 2.5 shown. '+' indicates the term's presence in the model. Type = Fresh or Litter, FF = Fire Frequency, TSF = Time Since Fire. Elevation and DBH (diameter at breast height) were scaled in the model. Bolded model indicates most parsimonious model. Random terms for each model were Tree/Site

| cnd((Int))   | dsp((Int)) | FF       | DBH      | Elevation     | TSF | Type | FF:TSF | FF:Type | df       | logLik         | AICc        | delta       |
|--------------|------------|----------|----------|---------------|-----|------|--------|---------|----------|----------------|-------------|-------------|
| <b>6.532</b> | +          | <b>+</b> |          | <b>0.2142</b> |     | +    |        |         | <b>7</b> | <b>-19.241</b> | <b>53.4</b> | <b>0.00</b> |
| 6.599        | +          | +        |          | 0.3043        | +   | +    |        |         | 8        | -18.676        | 54.6        | 1.14        |
| 6.550        | +          | +        |          | 0.2144        |     | +    | +      |         | 8        | -18.829        | 54.9        | 1.45        |
| 6.534        | +          | +        | 0.004887 | 0.2137        |     | +    |        |         | 8        | -19.223        | 55.6        | 2.24        |
| 6.576        | +          | +        |          | 0.3043        | +   | +    |        | +       | 9        | -18.102        | 55.7        | 2.31        |

**Table S3.** Model selection table for Log Carbon:Potassium. Top ranked models with a delta less than 2.5 shown. '+' indicates the term's presence in the model. Type = Fresh or Litter, FF = Fire Frequency, TSF = Time Since Fire. Elevation and DBH (diameter at breast height) were scaled in the model. Bolded model indicates most parsimonious model. Random terms for each model were Tree/Site

| cnd((Int))   | dsp((Int)) | FF | DBH | Elevation | TSF | Type | FF:Type | df | logLik           | AICc        | delta       |
|--------------|------------|----|-----|-----------|-----|------|---------|----|------------------|-------------|-------------|
| <b>5.504</b> | +          |    | +   |           |     | +    | +       |    | <b>7</b> -14.360 | <b>43.6</b> | <b>0.00</b> |
| 5.491        | +          |    | +   |           | +   | +    | +       |    | 8 -14.217        | 45.6        | 1.99        |
| 5.526        | +          |    | +   | 0.0766    | +   | +    | +       |    | 9 -13.065        | 45.6        | 2.00        |
| 5.508        | +          |    | +   | 0.01271   |     | +    | +       |    | 8 -14.231        | 45.7        | 2.02        |

**Table S4.** Minimum, maximum, mean, and standard deviation of leaf nutrient data separated by fire treatment and leaf type (fresh or litter). C:P = Carbon:Phosphorus, C:K = Carbon:Potassium, C:N = Carbon:Nitrogen, N:P = Nitrogen:Phosphorus, DBH = Diameter at Breast Height.

|                                       |                 |               |                   |                  |       |        |        |       | DBH      | Tree<br>Elevation |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------------|------------------|-------|--------|--------|-------|----------|-------------------|
|                                       | Nitrogen<br>(%) | Carbon<br>(%) | Phosphorus<br>(%) | Potassium<br>(%) | C:P   | C:K    | C:N    | N:P   | (metres) | (metres)          |
| <u>10 – 20 years Time since fire,</u> |                 |               |                   |                  |       |        |        |       |          |                   |
| <u>High fire frequency</u>            |                 |               |                   |                  |       |        |        |       |          |                   |
| <b>Litter</b>                         | min             | 0.4           | 52.54             | 0.013            | 0.013 | 1641.9 | 1616.1 | 61.4  | 20.7     | 0.2               |
|                                       | max             | 0.91          | 55.97             | 0.034            | 0.035 | 4206.3 | 4256.8 | 135.7 | 43.0     | 1.1               |
|                                       | mean            | 0.58          | 54.88             | 0.02             | 0.021 | 2946.6 | 2839.7 | 99.3  | 30.0     | 0.63              |
|                                       | sd              | 0.15          | 0.9               | 0.007            | 0.007 | 800.5  | 889.5  | 21.3  | 7.2      | 0.23              |
| <b>Fresh</b>                          | min             | 0.74          | 52.74             | 0.027            | 0.147 | 809.3  | 174.8  | 45.5  | 13.1     | 0.2               |
|                                       | max             | 1.21          | 55.06             | 0.067            | 0.311 | 1938.5 | 370.4  | 72.5  | 30.3     | 1.9               |
|                                       | mean            | 0.99          | 54.17             | 0.054            | 0.212 | 1060.7 | 265.0  | 55.6  | 19.1     | 0.69              |
|                                       | sd              | 0.13          | 0.64              | 0.012            | 0.044 | 301.3  | 51.7   | 7.8   | 4.2      | 0.39              |
| <u>3 years Time since fire,</u>       |                 |               |                   |                  |       |        |        |       |          |                   |
| <u>High fire frequency</u>            |                 |               |                   |                  |       |        |        |       |          |                   |
| <b>Litter</b>                         | min             | 0.4           | 53.41             | 0.01             | 0.011 | 1981.3 | 1816.7 | 63.7  | 31.2     | 0.19              |
|                                       | max             | 0.89          | 56.66             | 0.029            | 0.029 | 5511.6 | 5151.1 | 133.7 | 47.8     | 1.9               |
|                                       | mean            | 0.53          | 54.73             | 0.014            | 0.019 | 4399.1 | 3197.0 | 107.4 | 40.5     | 0.78              |
|                                       | sd              | 0.14          | 0.96              | 0.005            | 0.006 | 1135.7 | 1004.6 | 21.3  | 4.6      | 0.53              |
| <b>Fresh</b>                          | min             | 0.73          | 52.7              | 0.03             | 0.136 | 1055.5 | 187.1  | 47.7  | 20.2     | 0.19              |
|                                       | max             | 1.14          | 55.75             | 0.052            | 0.287 | 1831.5 | 387.9  | 75.4  | 29.0     | 1.9               |
|                                       | mean            | 0.89          | 54.32             | 0.037            | 0.211 | 1511.9 | 269.3  | 61.8  | 24.4     | 0.78              |
|                                       | sd              | 0.12          | 0.9               | 0.007            | 0.047 | 263.7  | 61.3   | 7.8   | 2.7      | 0.53              |

**Table S4 cont.**

|  |      | Nitrogen<br>(%) | Carbon<br>(%) | Phosphorus<br>(%) | Potassium<br>(%) | C:P    | C:K    | C:N   | N:P  | DBH<br>(metres) | Tree<br>Elevation<br>(metres) |
|--|------|-----------------|---------------|-------------------|------------------|--------|--------|-------|------|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| <b><u>10 – 20 years Time since fire,</u></b> |      |                 |               |                   |                  |        |        |       |      |                 |                               |
| Low fire frequency                           |      |                 |               |                   |                  |        |        |       |      |                 |                               |
| <b>Litter</b>                                | min  | 0.42            | 52.7          | 0.014             | 0.017            | 1016.0 | 1196.2 | 52.3  | 15.0 | 0.2             | 7.96                          |
|  | max  | 1.06            | 56.92         | 0.055             | 0.047            | 3791.1 | 3347.1 | 131.7 | 40.2 | 0.92            | 83.19                         |
|  | mean | 0.66            | 55.34         | 0.032             | 0.029            | 1948.1 | 2079.2 | 87.9  | 22.4 | 0.5             | 33.66                         |
|  | sd   | 0.17            | 0.87          | 0.011             | 0.009            | 743.5  | 645.4  | 19.8  | 7.8  | 0.22            | 27.84                         |
| <b>Fresh</b>                                 | min  | 0.7             | 51.99         | 0.04              | 0.123            | 241.2  | 164.8  | 42.3  | 3.2  | 0.2             | 7.96                          |
|  | max  | 1.28            | 54.99         | 0.222             | 0.326            | 1369.5 | 433.7  | 76.2  | 24.2 | 0.92            | 83.19                         |
|  | mean | 1.05            | 53.85         | 0.092             | 0.227            | 703.2  | 250.9  | 52.3  | 13.9 | 0.5             | 33.66                         |
|  | sd   | 0.15            | 0.77          | 0.045             | 0.051            | 304.8  | 66.1   | 8.4   | 6.0  | 0.22            | 27.84                         |
| <b><u>3 years Time since fire,</u></b>       |      |                 |               |                   |                  |        |        |       |      |                 |                               |
| Low fire frequency                           |      |                 |               |                   |                  |        |        |       |      |                 |                               |
| <b>Litter</b>                                | min  | 0.46            | 52.69         | 0.017             | 0.012            | 1060.1 | 1093.7 | 58.8  | 16.4 | 0.17            | 74.73                         |
|  | max  | 0.9             | 56.16         | 0.05              | 0.049            | 3282.8 | 4626   | 120.3 | 36.7 | 0.83            | 97.42                         |
|  | mean | 0.68            | 54.83         | 0.028             | 0.03             | 2215.0 | 2058   | 83    | 26.1 | 0.51            | 85.19                         |
|  | sd   | 0.1             | 0.97          | 0.011             | 0.01             | 828    | 895.6  | 14.9  | 6.9  | 0.22            | 7.84                          |
| <b>Fresh</b>                                 | min  | 0.78            | 51.86         | 0.035             | 0.179            | 347.5  | 168.2  | 35.5  | 7.9  | 0.17            | 74.73                         |
|  | max  | 1.46            | 55.71         | 0.153             | 0.308            | 1591.8 | 299.4  | 69.6  | 25.5 | 0.83            | 97.42                         |
|  | mean | 1.02            | 54.16         | 0.068             | 0.222            | 959.6  | 250.9  | 54.4  | 17.2 | 0.51            | 85.19                         |
|  | sd   | 0.18            | 0.88          | 0.033             | 0.039            | 390.50 | 39.9   | 9.3   | 5.2  | 0.22            | 7.84                          |

**Table S5.** Mean nutrient re-absorption efficiency values for nitrogen (N), phosphorus (P) and Potassium (K). Calculated as (fresh leaves - litter) / fresh leaves) \* 100.

| Nutrient resorption efficiency (%)                 | N  | P  | K  |
|--|----|----|----|
| Total mean   | 38 | 62 | 89 |
| 10 – 20 years time since fire, high fire frequency | 41 | 63 | 90 |
| 10 – 20 years time since fire, low fire frequency  | 37 | 65 | 87 |
| 3 years time since fire, high fire frequency       | 40 | 62 | 91 |
| 3 years time fire, low fire frequency              | 33 | 59 | 86 |

**Table S6.** Minimum, maximum, mean, and standard deviation of soil data from Bowd (2022) separated by fire treatment.

|  | Ammonium<br>Nitrogen<br>(mg/kg) | Nitrate<br>Nitrogen<br>(mg/kg) | Phosphorus<br>(mg/kg) | Potassium<br>(mg/kg) | Sulphur<br>(mg/kg) | Organic<br>Carbon (%) | Conductivity<br>(dS/m) | pH    |
|--|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-------|
| Soil moisture<br>(%)                               |                                 |                                |                       |                      |                    |                       |                        |       |
| 10 – 20 years time since fire, high fire frequency |                                 |                                |                       |                      |                    |                       |                        |       |
| min  | 9                               | 1.12                           | 0.56                  | 0.97                 | 20.9               | 1.9                   | 0.83                   | 0.019 |
| max  | 15.4                            | 3.79                           | 0.69                  | 1.25                 | 25.3               | 3.1                   | 1.45                   | 0.033 |
| mean   | 11.88                           | 1.95                           | 0.62                  | 1.11                 | 22.6               | 2.4                   | 1.08                   | 0.025 |
| sd   | 2.52                            | 1.03                           | 0.06                  | 0.09                 | 1.9                | 0.47                  | 0.22                   | 0.005 |
| 3 years time since fire, high fire frequency       |                                 |                                |                       |                      |                    |                       |                        |       |
| min  | 9.4                             | 1.48                           | 0.56                  | 0.86                 | 11.7               | 1.3                   | 0.54                   | 0.015 |
| max  | 14                              | 2.34                           | 0.73                  | 2.13                 | 23                 | 1.9                   | 1.17                   | 0.025 |
| mean   | 11.87                           | 1.94                           | 0.64                  | 1.16                 | 18.4               | 1.58                  | 0.79                   | 0.019 |
| sd   | 1.78                            | 0.32                           | 0.06                  | 0.48                 | 4.3                | 0.22                  | 0.25                   | 0.004 |
| 10 – 20 years time since fire, low fire frequency  |                                 |                                |                       |                      |                    |                       |                        |       |
| min  | 4.9                             | 0.85                           | 0.6                   | 1.04                 | 15.7               | 1.7                   | 0.49                   | 0.015 |
| max  | 10.4                            | 2.24                           | 0.69                  | 1.65                 | 25.6               | 2.1                   | 0.93                   | 0.025 |
| mean   | 8.43                            | 1.47                           | 0.64                  | 1.26                 | 19.2               | 1.83                  | 0.69                   | 0.02  |
| sd   | 2.01                            | 0.5                            | 0.03                  | 0.21                 | 3.6                | 0.15                  | 0.18                   | 0.004 |
| 3 years time since fire, low fire frequency        |                                 |                                |                       |                      |                    |                       |                        |       |
| min  | 6.8                             | 0.93                           | 0.56                  | 1.02                 | 16.2               | 1.3                   | 0.57                   | 0.017 |
| max  | 9.6                             | 3.07                           | 0.7                   | 2.34                 | 24.2               | 2.2                   | 0.74                   | 0.027 |
| mean   | 8.62                            | 1.52                           | 0.62                  | 1.6                  | 18.7               | 1.65                  | 0.67                   | 0.02  |
| sd   | 1.18                            | 0.79                           | 0.06                  | 0.47                 | 3                  | 0.4                   | 0.06                   | 0.004 |