

1 **Fire Weather & Topography**

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How does land form effect fire ?

- 2 **Because heat rises, fuels on a slope tend to be affected by convective heat causing them to dry faster than those on a flat surface.**

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- 5 **Likewise fuel exposed to the sun dry faster and tend to burn more aggressively than shaded fuels**

6 **Solar radiation**

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9 **Slope**

The steepness typically expressed in percent

10 **Aspect**

The direction a slope faces

11 **Aspect**

- Incident angle of the sun
- North – cool & moist: mesic
- South – hot & dry: xeric

12 **Elevation**

Typically not an issue in Alabama

13 **Ridge and Valley**

14 **Gaps and chutes**

- 15 **Slope, aspect and elevation effect fire behavior directly but they have an indirect effect because of the different types of vegetation that occur as a result of each of these factors.**

- 16 **While the fuels may be the similar the fuel load within a given fuel varies with aspect, slope, and elevation.**

- 17 **EXAMPLE: south facing slopes typically have dryer site xeric species like pine. North facing slopes typically have moister site mesic species like hardwoods.**

- 18 **Questions – Comments ?**