

Rethinking False Spring Risk

Outstanding Questions

1. What are the different plant avoidance and tolerance strategies to deal with spring frost events and how do they vary across lifestages, populations, species and higher groupings (e.g., plant functional types)?
2. What plant strategies will be most successful in mitigating the impacts of false spring with climate change?
3. What is the most appropriate temperature threshold is for defining a false spring? Does it vary predictably across species or habitats?
4. What phenological cues are most important to determining the duration of vegetative risk and how will these cues shift with climate change?
5. What regions are most at risk from false springs now and what regions will be at risk in the future? Are there differences in level of risk across elevations, latitudes and/or are there coastal effects?
6. How will shifts in false springs with climate change combined with variation in risk across species and lifestages shape future woody plant communities?