



Humans and fire in Australian food webs from the Pleistocene to the Anthropocene

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There is much debate about the causes and consequences of the recent extinctions in uncleared Australia landscapes. Several theories have stressed the importance of changed fire regimes following the breakdown of Aboriginal land management and the introduction of non-native herbivores and carnivores. Some theories also highlight the legacy effects of the initial impact of Aboriginal colonisation in the late Pleistocene, including the extinction of very large marsupial herbivores and carnivores, collectively known as 'megafauna'.

While manipulating fire regimes, humans must simultaneously manage mammalian food webs, possibly by introducing new species to compensate for the extinction of herbivores and carnivores that have occurred in the recent and more distant past.

Wednesday 7 October
6:00pm
Archway 2 Lecture Theatre
University of Otago
Dunedin
Everyone welcome

