



Rank and correlation of monthly fire number data 1980-2000 with CRU/RegCM climate variables over eight subregions of the west. The rankings are based on an imposed 33/33/33 distribution of high, normal, and low fire numbers. Both the fire and climate data have been transformed and standardized using the method for computing the standardized precipitation index. The fires are ranked with in each block of months, eg. the first year in June is the biggest over the 20-yr record and the last year low June is the lowest. Orange years are also high area years, grey are normal, and blue are low areas. The ranked climate variables for a specific fire year are temp, precip, and soil moisture anomalies for 1 (the current month), 3, 6, and 12 months. The colors are indicative of the sign of the rank. Light orange and light blue indicate the sign within the normal rank. ENSO is the current year, and ENSO-1 the previous year, only the sign and unranked. The upper correlation table is the correlation between monthly fire numbers and the indicated variable. Blue shades are > 0.5 and yellow are < -0.5. The lower table is the same, except the correlations are between the 1, 3, 6, and 12 month fire number anomaly and the same lags for the climate data.