



**Presentation Abstracts**  
**Fire Friday: Discussion about burning issues**  
**Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023**  
**4:00pm-6:00pm**

**Alice Lincoln-Cook:** Chairperson of the California Indian Basketweavers Association (CIBA)

**Carolyn Smith:** PhD, CIBA member

**Abstract:** This co-presented discussion will describe the history of the California Indian Basketweavers Association (CIBA) and its roots in advocacy and activism. Additionally, we will discuss the development of the award winning *Following the Smoke* program that brought together basketweavers, teachers, with local, state, and federal agency personnel to learn about Northwestern California basketry and gathering site stewardship and CIBA's involvement with developing a new iteration of this program, called *Following the Smoke II*, that promotes collaboration across a wider geographic region. Finally, we will share information about CIBA's new initiative, *Rekindling Culture and Fire*, that promotes the reintroduction and increase of cultural burns to advocate for safe and healthy traditional gathering areas on public, tribal, and private lands in collaboration with California Indian basketweavers.

**Scot Steinbring:** Operations Director at Torchbearr

**Erica Terence:** Planning Director at Torchbearr

**Abstract:** A fire specialist and a lifelong non-profit worker recently co-founded two urgently needed non-profit organizations focused on increased use of prescribed fire.

In brief, the purpose of Torchbearr is to promote prescribed burning. Our longer view mission is to work for a brighter fire future for all. Torchbearr builds capacity for, implements, and advocates a smarter, safer, and more economical fire future, by creating a mobile prescribed training venue and workforce. Torchbearr works with partners and landowners to do more beneficial prescribed burning at every scale.

A key part of our prescribed fire movement is to create cultural change that supports increased prescribed burning as a strategy to decrease the need to suppress or fight fires. We use tactics including classroom education, hands-on training and burning, coordinated coalition building, and educational events/outlets to accomplish our mission.