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Tree rings and fire scars (dark areas) of a giant sequoia from the Sierra Nevada, California. Episodic fires that burned around the base of sequoias caused scars that were subsequently healed over by tree-ring growth. Composite records (spanning 2000 years) from many fire-scarred trees in five sequoia groves document long-term changes in fire frequency and size associated with precipitation and temperature fluctuations. See page 885. [Photo: A. C. Caprio]

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