



California Wildfires

Dangerous & Costly Hazards



Can occur anywhere, at anytime, and destroy or alter everything in their path.



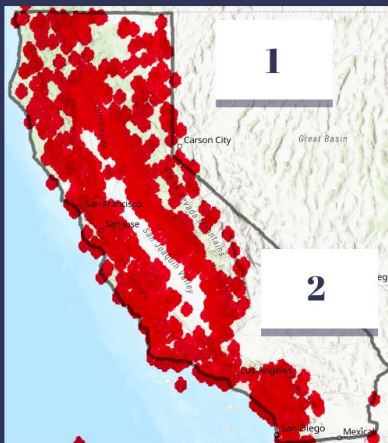
Unpredictable disasters caused by natural occurrence or by human carelessness.



Help create other types of hazards such as floods and landslides that are just as devastating.

Geographical Areas Affected

Mostly low altitude areas
- mountain downslopes
- vallies
- coastal areas



Incidents past 5 years

California has 2 types of wind patterns that help fuel wildfires...

1. Northern Diablo
2. Southern Santa Ana

Winds carry very dry air from high altitude areas east of California to the Pacific coast suck up all moisture from vegetation and air. Chances of wildfires increase the closer to the California coastline.

Elevation



Easterly winds blow very dry air.

Dryness + heat + high winds

Effects of Wildfires

2015 through 2019



Incidents

15,820
Fires



Acres

3,384,319
Estimated burned



Fatalities

147
Confirmed deaths



Structures

39,558
Damaged or destroyed

- Displaces animals
- Loss of vegetation
- Wildlife killed
- Pollution
- Fatalities and injuries
- Reduces air quality
- Homelessness
- Business losses

Wildfires affect everything in their path, from people to animals and entire ecosystems.

Efforts to minimize hazards from wildfires



Keep buildings debris free

Remove vegetation at least 30 feet from structures.



Camping & cooking

Extinguish fires completely.



Turning off power to high risk areas

Downside is many people are affected by power outages.

Maintain Equipment

Power company needs to pay better attention.



Prescribed fires

Controlled burns to remove dangerous vegetation.