

Agenda:

**Sign In on Paper
Sign In Sheet**

Time	Item
9:00 am	Coffee & Pastries Networking - SUPER FAST!
9:05 am	Popcorn Project Updates
9:35 am	5th Climate Assessment Update: Dr. Safeeq Khan
10:00 am	Wildfire Solutions Coalition - Wildfire Panel Framing
10:10 am	Panelist Presentations: Owen Doherty (Cal Adapt), Nadia Tase (Cal Fire), Eric Horntvedt (Truckee Fire)
10:30 am	In Conversation: Wildfire Solutions Coalition moderated discussion with Panelists
10:45 am	Audience Q&A
11:00 am	Close Out

Climate Transformation Alliance Quarterly Meeting

October 10th, 2025
Truckee Tahoe Airport



CTA Updates



- **CTA Strategic Planning**
 - Outcomes from Governing Partner Meeting
- **Subcommittee Meetings**
 - October 23 & 24
- **Next Quarterly Meeting**
 - In 2026!

CA 5th Climate Change Assessment, Sierra Nevada Regional Report



Safeeq Khan, PhD.
Coordinating Lead Author



CA Governor's Office of
**Land Use and
Climate Innovation**



California's Fifth Climate Change Assessment: Sierra Nevada Region

(Summary of Key Findings)

10th October 2025

[Presented by: Safeeq Khan, Coordinating Lead Author, University of California, Merced]

Lead & Contributing Authors

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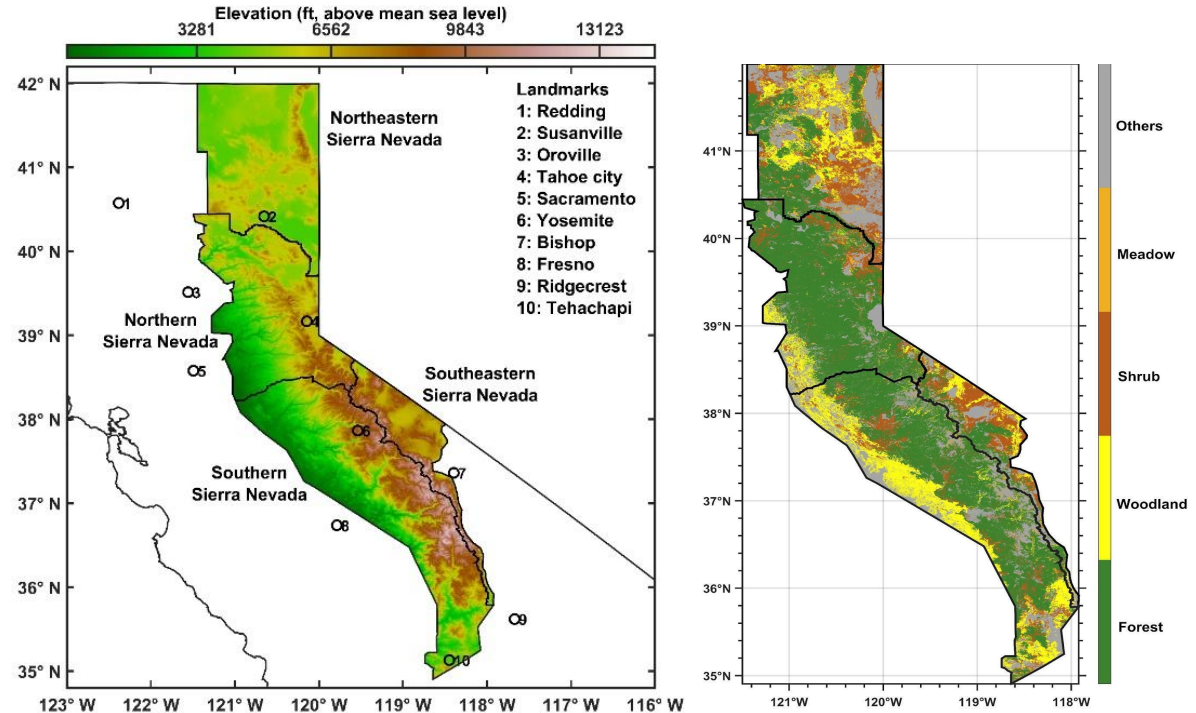
Community Advisors

J. Wentworth, J. Hatch, L. Olaerts



The Sierra Nevada: Geography and Importance

- Encompasses California's major elevation gradients and watersheds, spanning foothills to alpine zones.
- Provides the headwaters for more than 60% of the state's developed water supply, supporting agriculture and urban areas downstream.
- Sustains critical ecosystems, communities, and infrastructure that are highly sensitive to

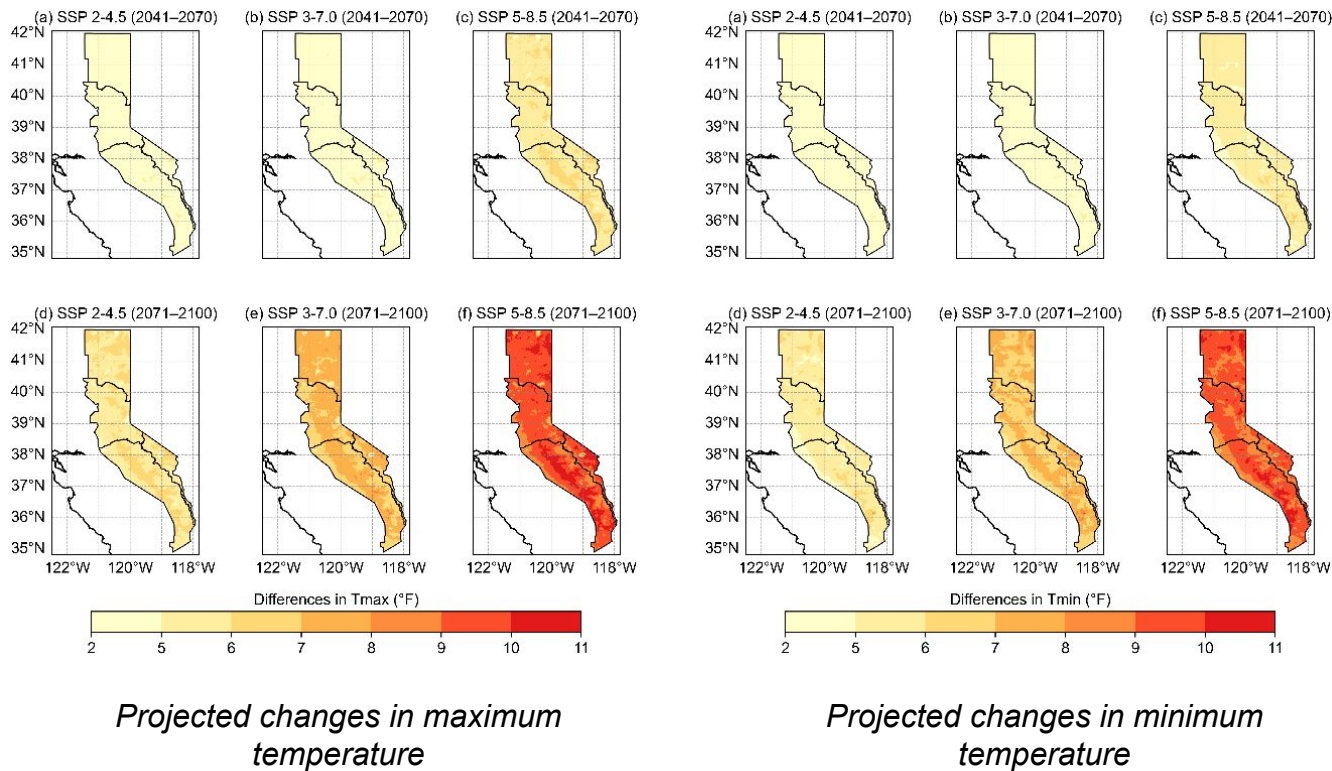


The topography and ecotones of the Sierra Nevada



Projected Temperature Increases Across All Seasons

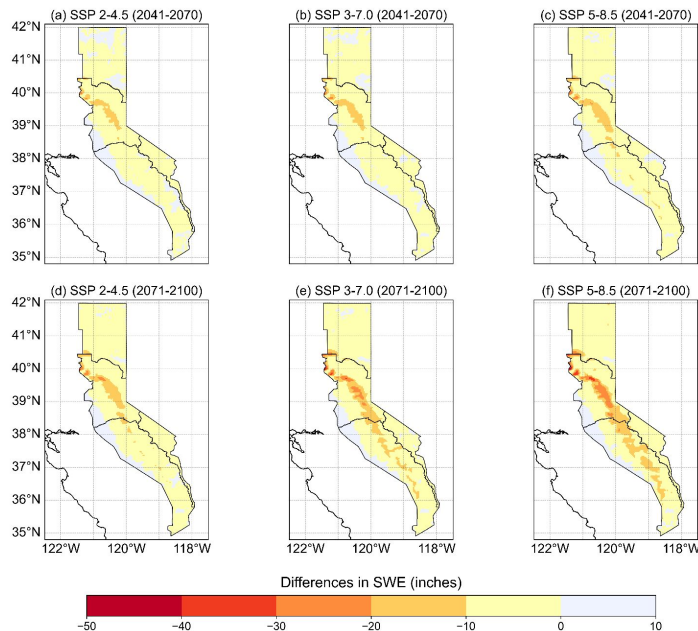
- By the end of the century, annual temperatures are projected to increase by 5.8-9.5 °F, depending on the emissions scenario.
- Warming occurs across all seasons, with clear spatial variations among Sierra subregions.
- The projections are based on statistically downscaled CMIP6 climate models.



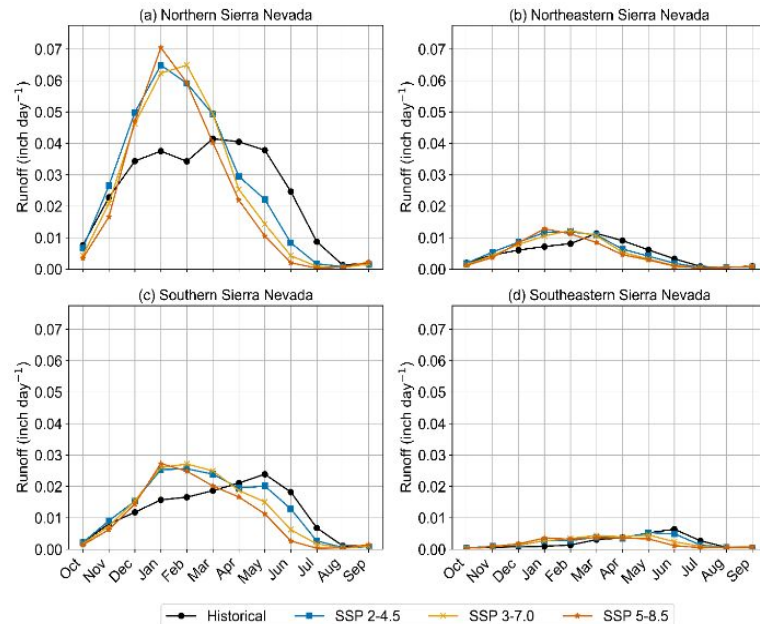


Substantial Snowpack Declines and Earlier Runoff Projected

- Snowpack is projected to decline by up to 90% across much of the Sierra Nevada by the end of the century.
- The rain-snow transition zone is expected to rise 1,500-3,000 ft, shifting runoff earlier in the year and altering streamflow seasonality.
- Peak runoff may occur one month earlier, and summer runoff could decline by 41-56%, with



Projected absolute changes in the snow water equivalent (SWE) under emission scenarios

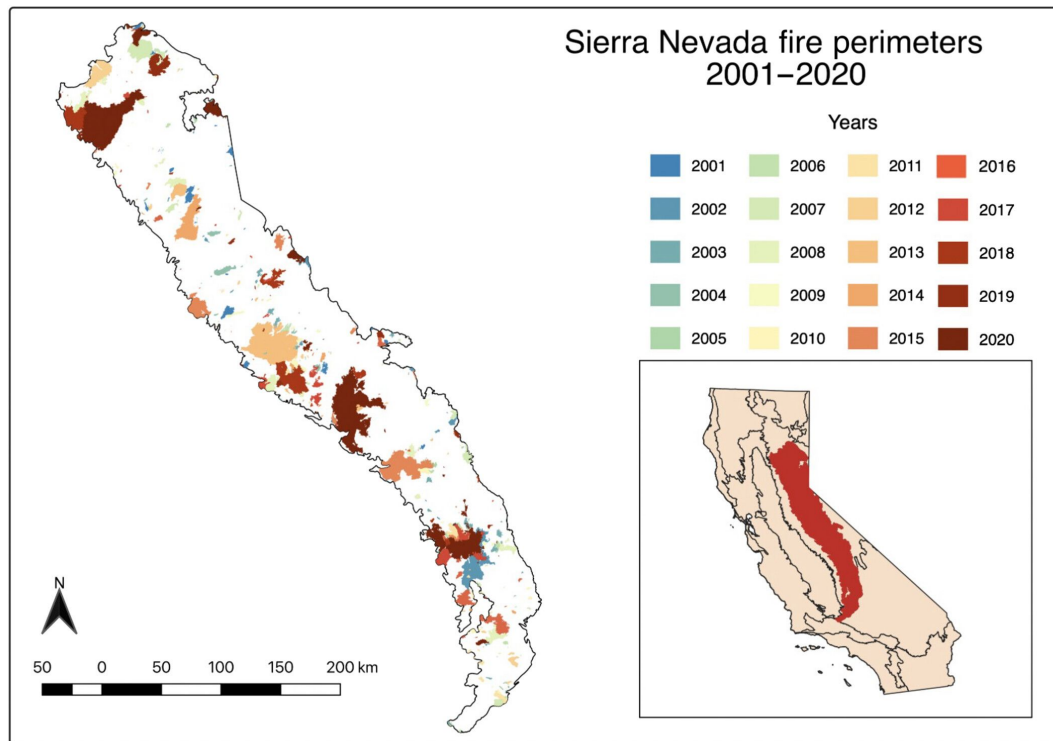


Projected monthly runoff under emission scenarios and across the subregions of Sierra Nevada



Wildfire Activity is Increasing and Projected to Grow Further

- The region has experienced some of the largest and most severe wildfires in California's history over the past two decades.
- Burned area and number of fires is projected to increase, driven by warmer, drier conditions.
- Wildfire activity is increasingly affecting higher-elevation forests that historically burned less frequently.

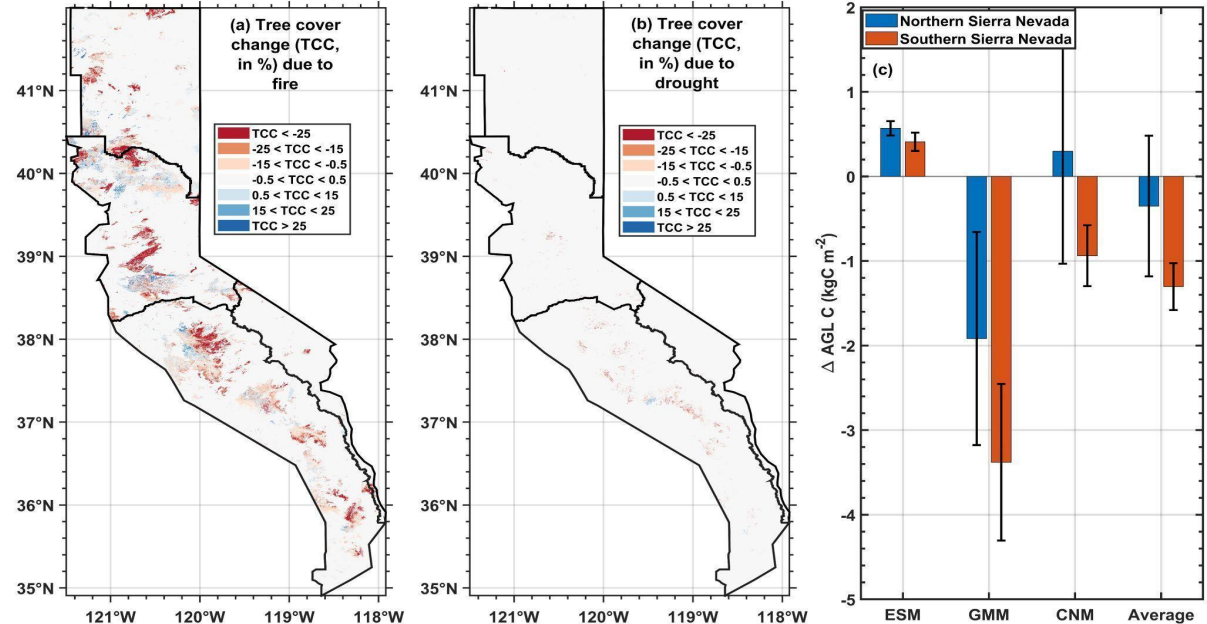


Historical fire perimeter across the Sierra Nevada
[Source: Gutierrez et al., 2021, *Science Advances*]



Ecosystems Are Undergoing Major Shifts

- Forest ecosystems are transforming due to drought, bark beetle outbreaks, and wildfire disturbances.
- ~30% of conifer forests converted to non-forest types between 2011 and 2020, reflecting rapid ecological change.
- Shifts in vegetation types across elevation ranges indicate changing ecological conditions and reduced carbon storage.

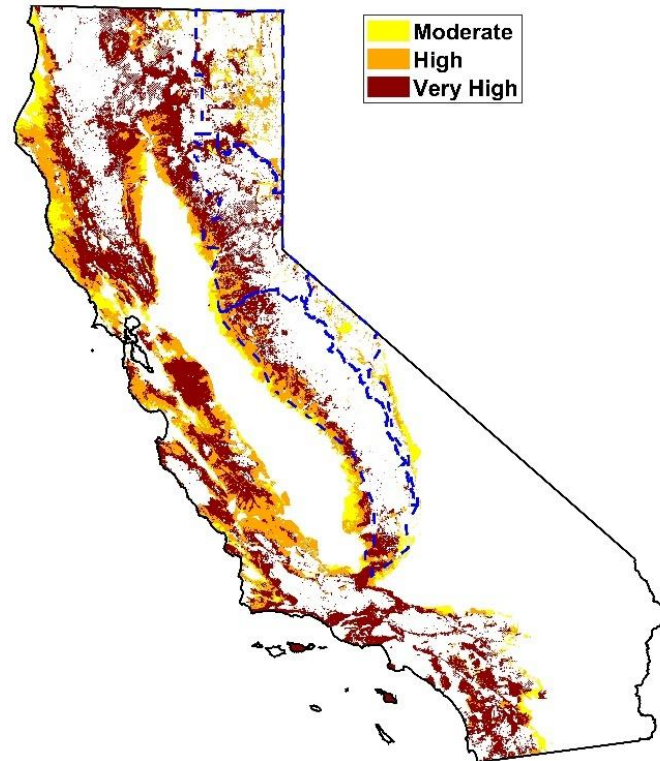


Changes in tree cover due to (a) fire, (b) drought, and (c) changes in carbon storage across the subregions of Sierra Nevada ["Northern" and "Southern" in Fig. (c) refer to the combined Northeastern and Northern areas, and the combined Southeastern and Southern areas of the Sierra Nevada, respectively.]



Communities Face Rising Climate Hazards

- More than one-third of the Sierra Nevada lies in high or very high wildfire hazard zones, increasing exposure risks for residents.
- ~550,000 people live in poverty and 445,000 have disabilities, which heighten vulnerability to climate impacts.
- Social and economic vulnerabilities intersect with hazard zones, challenging local resilience.

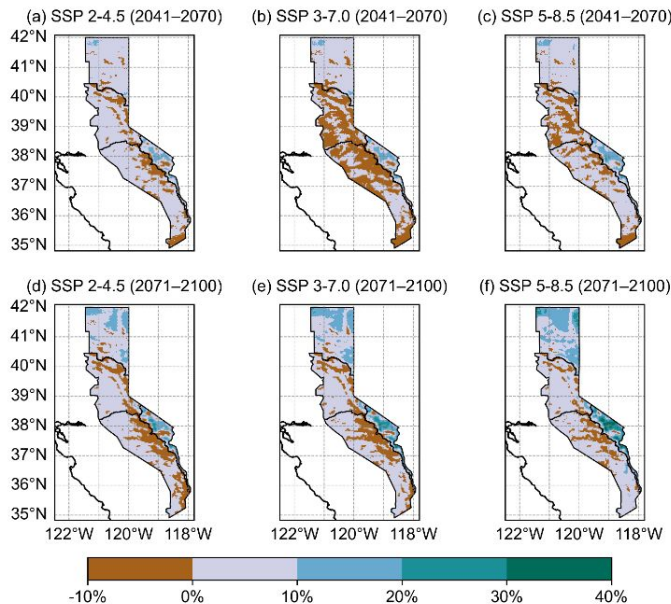


Fire hazard severity zones in California

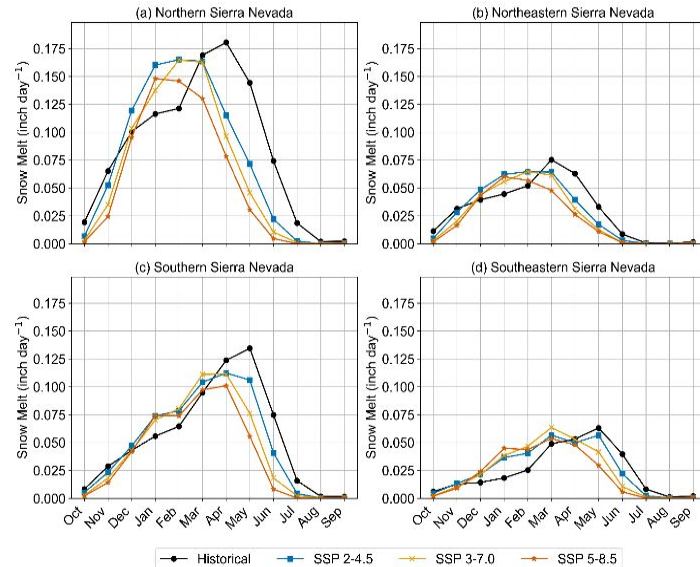


Climate Changes Poses Risks to Critical Infrastructure

- Shifting precipitation and snowmelt patterns alter water availability and reliability of hydropower generation.
- Wildfire, flooding, and landslides, threaten transportation corridors, power lines, and water conveyance systems, causing cascading impacts.
- Infrastructure vulnerabilities are compounded by their



Projected change in precipitation patterns



Projected change in snowmelt across the subregions



Adaptation Strategies Are Emerging Across Sectors

Possible Adaptation Strategies



Forest and watershed management

Forest thinning, prescribed fire, and watershed restoration.



Tribal stewardship and partnerships

Tribal leadership and traditional ecological knowledge could play a central role in landscape adaptation.



Water & infrastructure modernization

Upgrading conveyance, storage, and hydropower systems supports reliable water and energy.



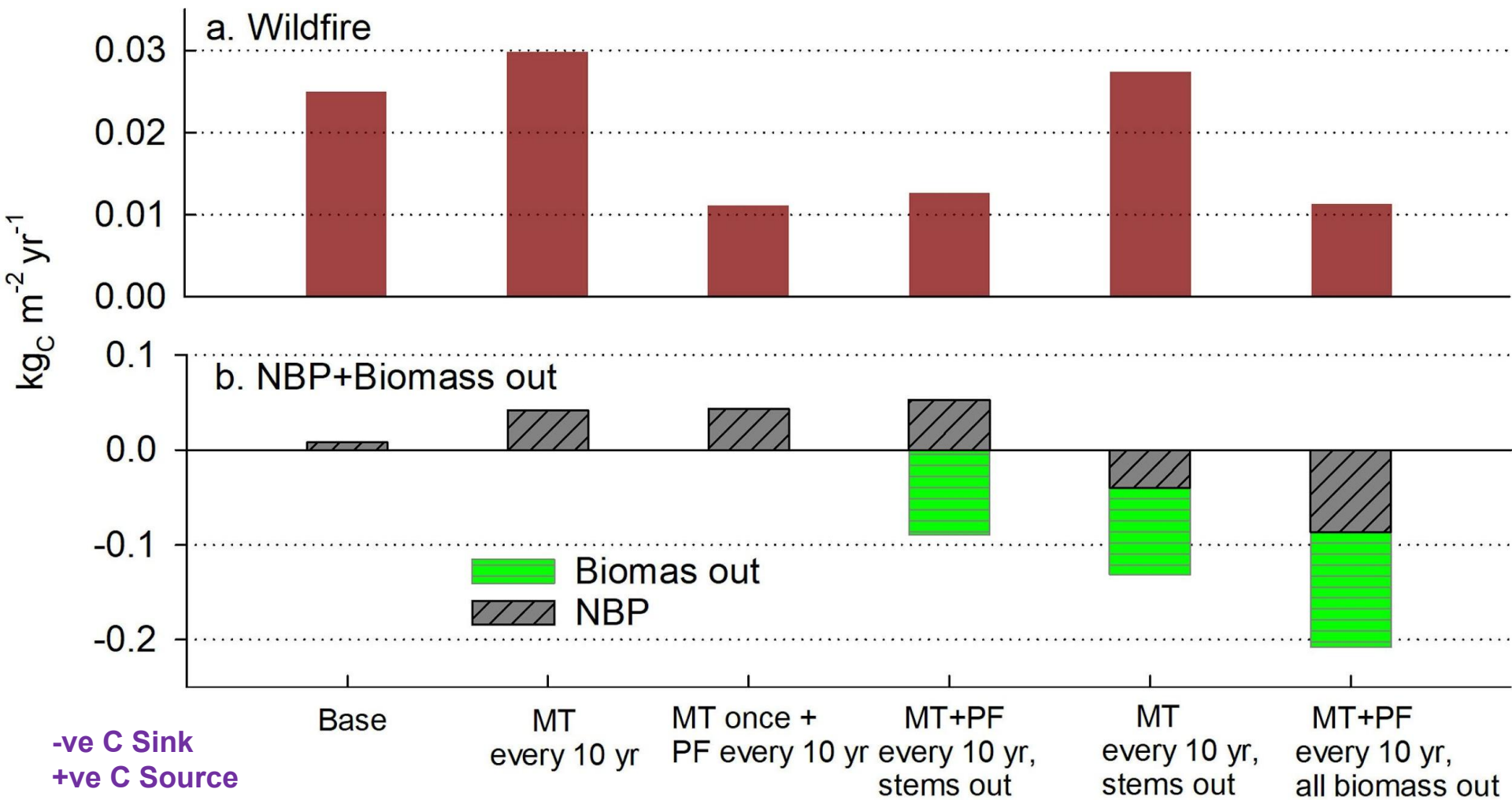
Community resilience & equity

Building adaptive capacity through inclusive planning & hazard mitigation improves social resilience.



Economic diversification and planning

Diversifying local economies and strengthening workforce capacity support long-term adaptation across sectors.





The Sierra Nevada Plays a Central Role in California's Climate Future

- Climate change is reshaping the region's climate, hydrology, ecosystems, communities, and infrastructure.
- The Sierra Nevada's future is closely linked to the state's overall climate resilience.
- Sustained, coordinated action is needed across sectors and scales.



For more information, visit snclimate.ucwater.org



THE WILDFIRE SOLUTIONS COALITION

Together, we can break California's
cycle of catastrophic wildfire.

wildfiresolutionsca.org



The Challenge

WE NEED CONSISTENT FUNDING to address California's wildfire crisis

- Addressing California's wildfire crisis will cost at least \$2.5-\$3 billion/year for 10 years
- The State of California currently has < \$300M /yr committed to wildfire resilience on an ongoing basis
- Prop 4: \$1.5 billion over the next few years, supported by nearly 60% of Californians
- Federal funding is at risk, declining, and/or lacking capacity for implementation

OUR GOAL

Secure the long-term funding needed to fully implement California's wildfire resilience strategy



WHAT'S AT STAKE:



Human Lives

Over 50,000 Californians have died from wildfire smoke impacts since 2008



Economic Costs

Wildfires cost California \$117 billion per year in economic losses



Air Quality

Wildfire smoke has increased air pollution to levels not seen in over 20 years



Carbon Emissions

Wildfires are one of California's largest sources of greenhouse gas emissions



Ecosystem Health

The amount of high-severity wildfire has no historical precedent

WHAT WE STAND TO GAIN:



Public Health

Preventing extreme wildfires will protect Californians' health, especially in low-income and disadvantaged communities



Cost Savings

Investments to reduce wildfire risk are extremely efficient – they save at least \$6 for every \$1 invested



Economic Opportunity

Wildfire resilience investments will create tens of thousands of jobs in communities across the state



Water Security

Reducing extreme wildfire protects our water supply from dangerous contamination and expensive damage



Climate Action

Nature-based solutions are the most cost-effective way to reduce emissions and mitigate climate risks

The Coalition

The Wildfire Solutions Coalition was launched in June 2025 in response to the growing urgency of California's wildfire crisis.

The cross-sector Coalition is unified in the critical need to move the state from wildfire response to wildfire risk reduction.

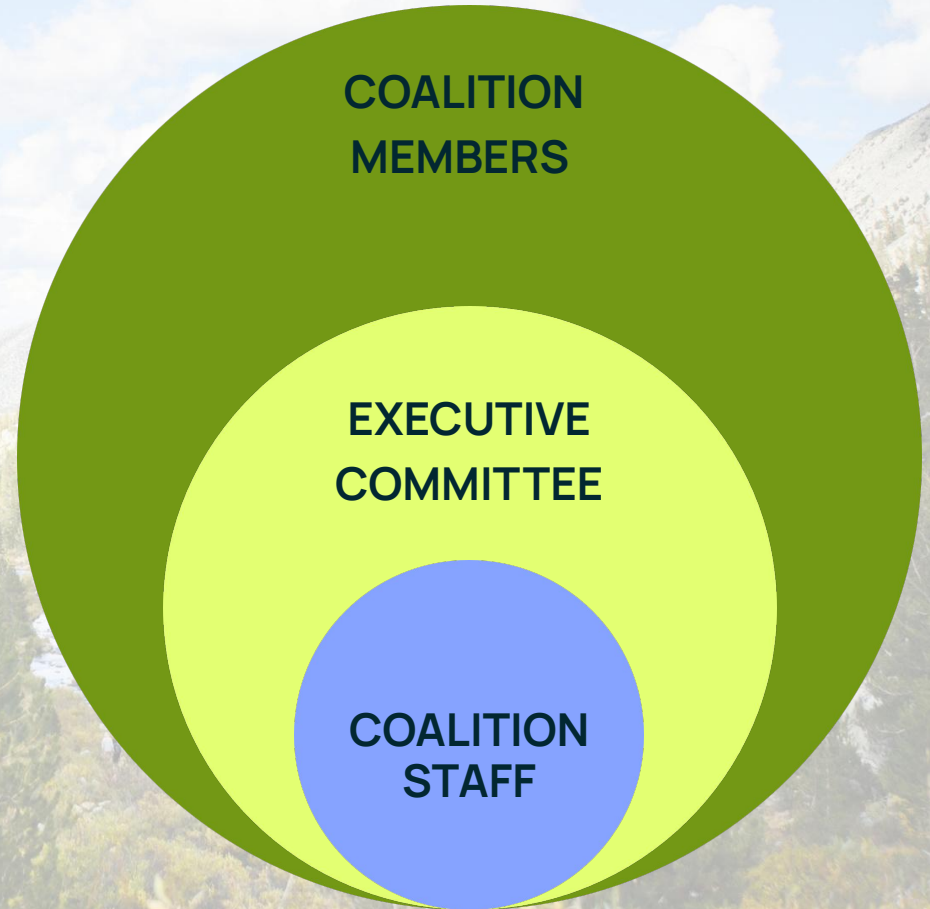


How We Work

- Expand & mobilize a broad-based, statewide coalition for wildfire resilience
- Elevate wildfire resilience as a near-term priority for state and local leaders
- Build strong public support for specific strategies to expand wildfire resilience funding



Coalition Structure



Coalition Roles

Coalition Members

Ambassadors, Advocates,
Messengers, Advisors

"This work is mission-aligned"

Executive Committee

Advisors, Strategists, Fundraisers,
Advocates, Messengers

"This work is a top priority"

Coalition Staff

Project Managers, Fiscal Sponsors
(Subset of Executive Committee)

"This work is a top priority"

50+ members and growing!



Northern Sierra Partnership



2025: Cap-and-Invest, GGRF, Prop 4

- Reauthorize Cap-and-Invest
- Protect \$200m in Cap-and-Invest allocations for wildfire resilience and mitigation
- Allocate Prop 4 wildfire funding
- Complement wildfire investments with funding for other nature-based climate solutions

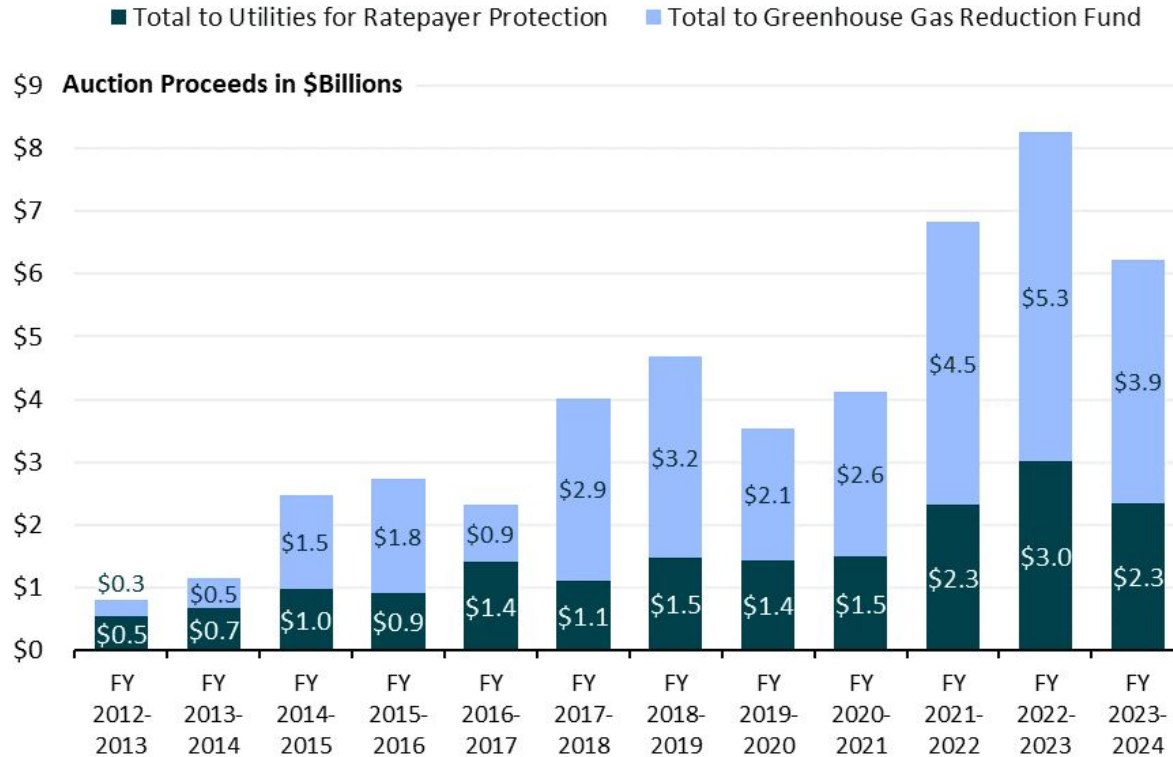


2026: GGRF, Prop 4, Gubernatorial Candidates

- Increase Cap-and-Invest appropriations for wildfire resilience and other nature-based climate solutions
- Continue to appropriate Prop 4 wildfire funding funds
- Educate gubernatorial candidates – California's Wildfire Governor



History of Cap & Trade Revenue



Source: Congressional Review Service
<https://www.congress.gov/crs-product/R48314>



Our Ask

Join the Coalition to secure sustained funding so California can execute its wildfire strategy and break out of the cycle of crisis.



wildfiresolutionsca.org



Northern Sierra Partnership

e_blackmer@sierrabusiness.org

info@wildfiresolutionsca.org

wildfiresolutionsca.org



Wildfire Resilience Panelists



Owen Doherty, PhD

Principal Research
Scientist
Eagle Rock Analytics



Nadia Tase

Forest Health Research &
Monitoring Program
Manager
CAL FIRE



Eric Horntvedt

Wildfire Prevention
Manager
Truckee Fire

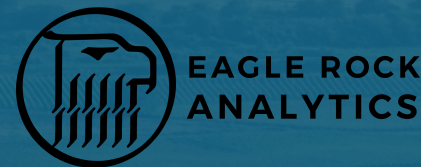




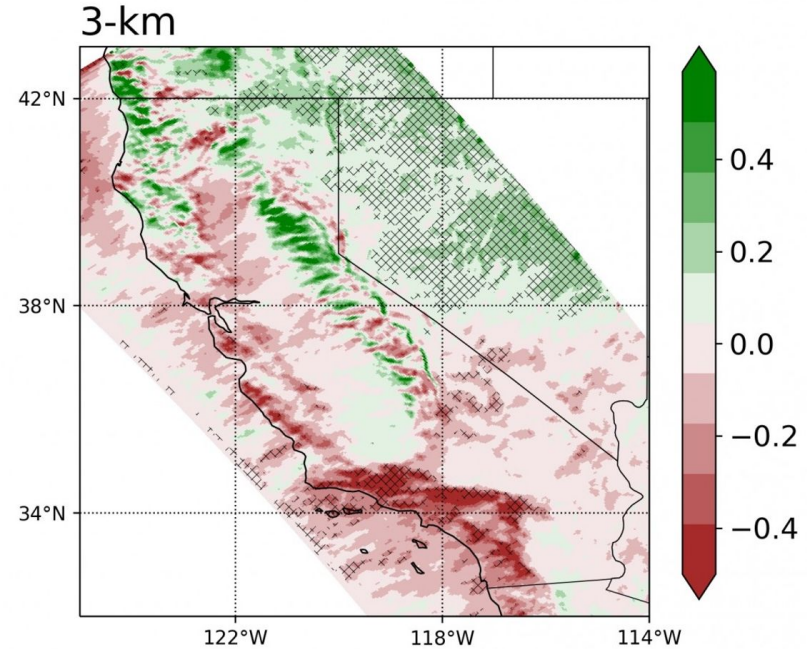
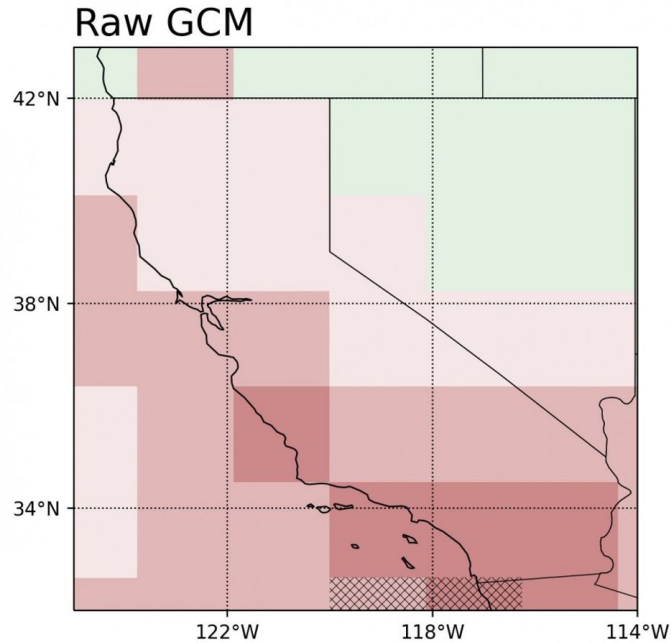
Cal-Adapt:

From Climate Data to Local Planning

Owen Doherty, Ph.D.
Eagle Rock Analytics, Inc.

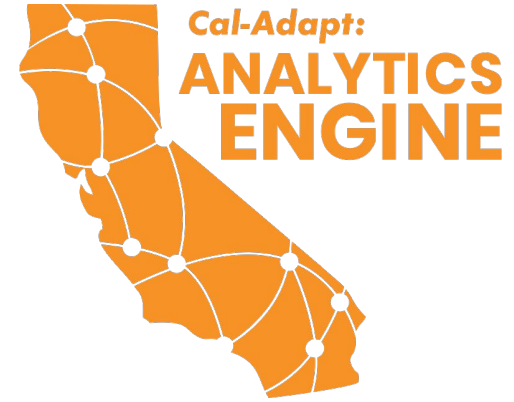
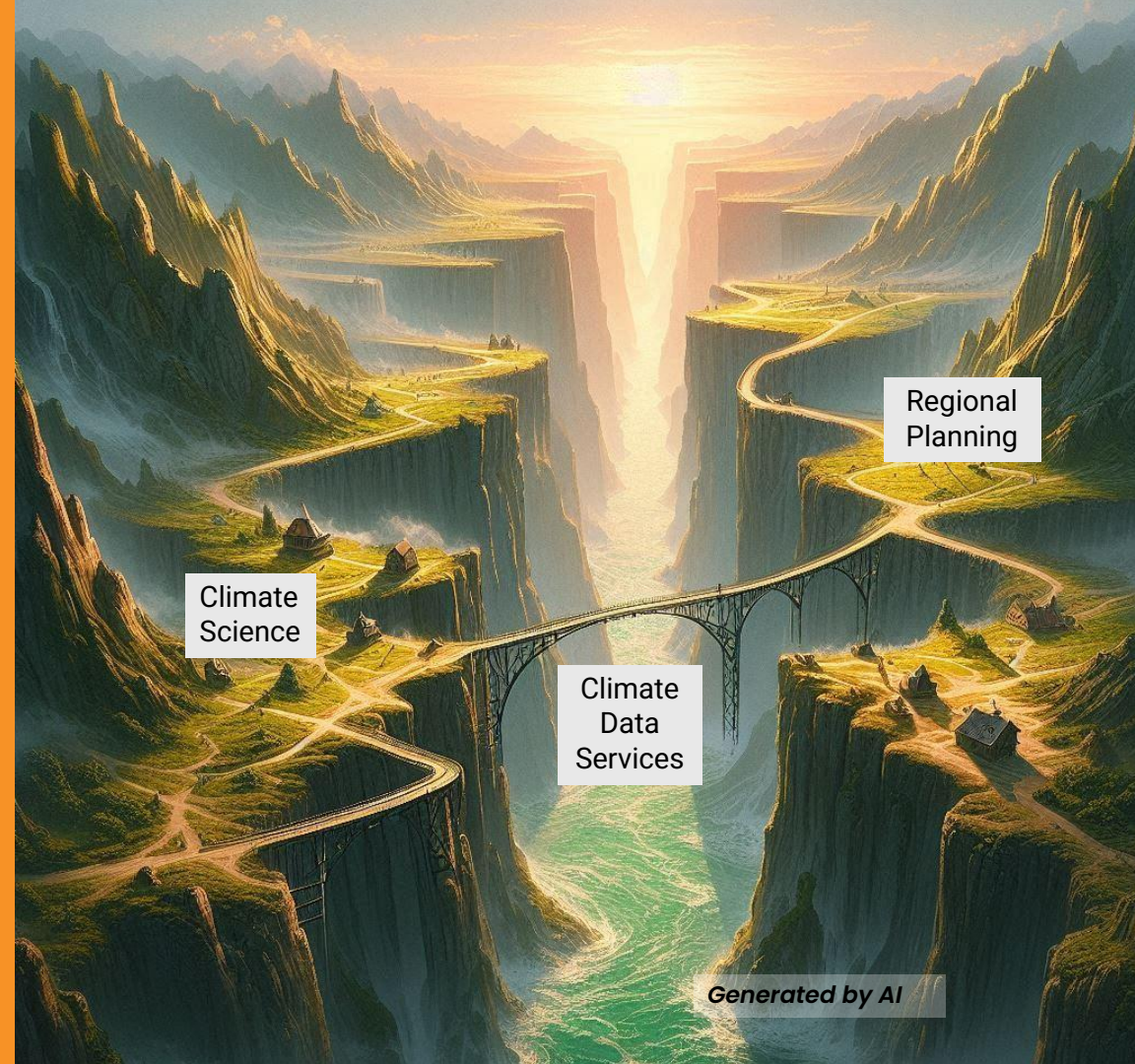


Downscaling: Making Global Local



Source: Stefan Rahimi, UCLA

<https://dept.atmos.ucla.edu/alexhall/downscaling-cmip6>



The Climate Gap

CAL-ADAPT

Cal-Adapt Fills the Gap



Useful Info



Access

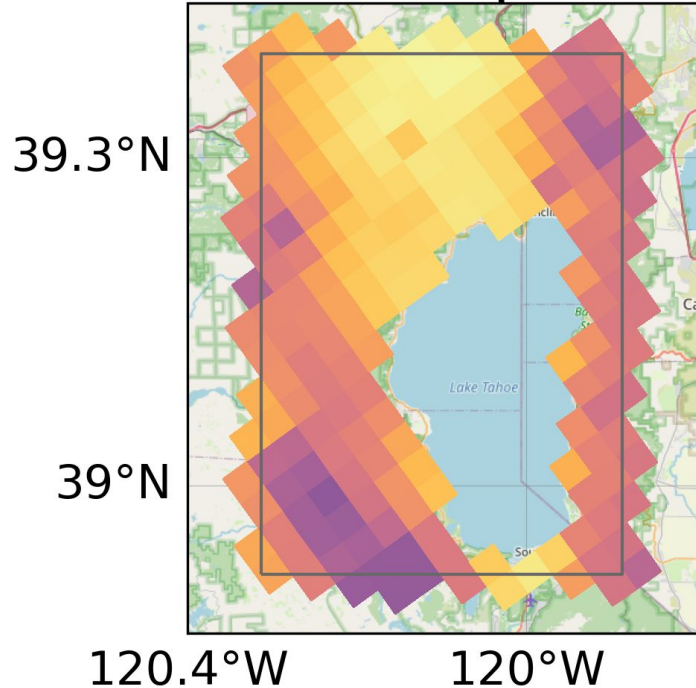


Locally
Accessible

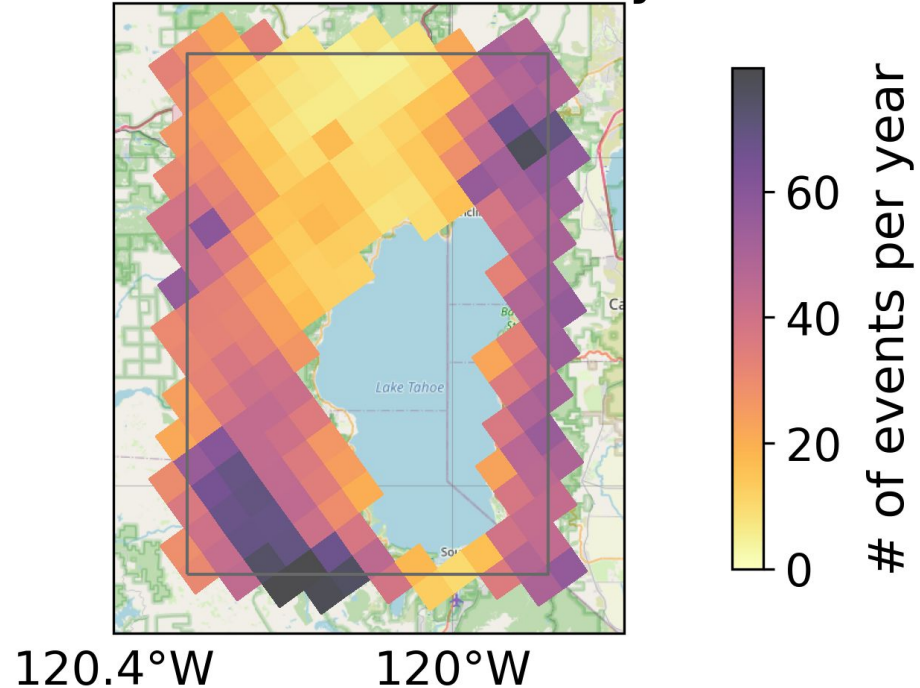


Climate Drivers of Fire in Truckee

Recent past



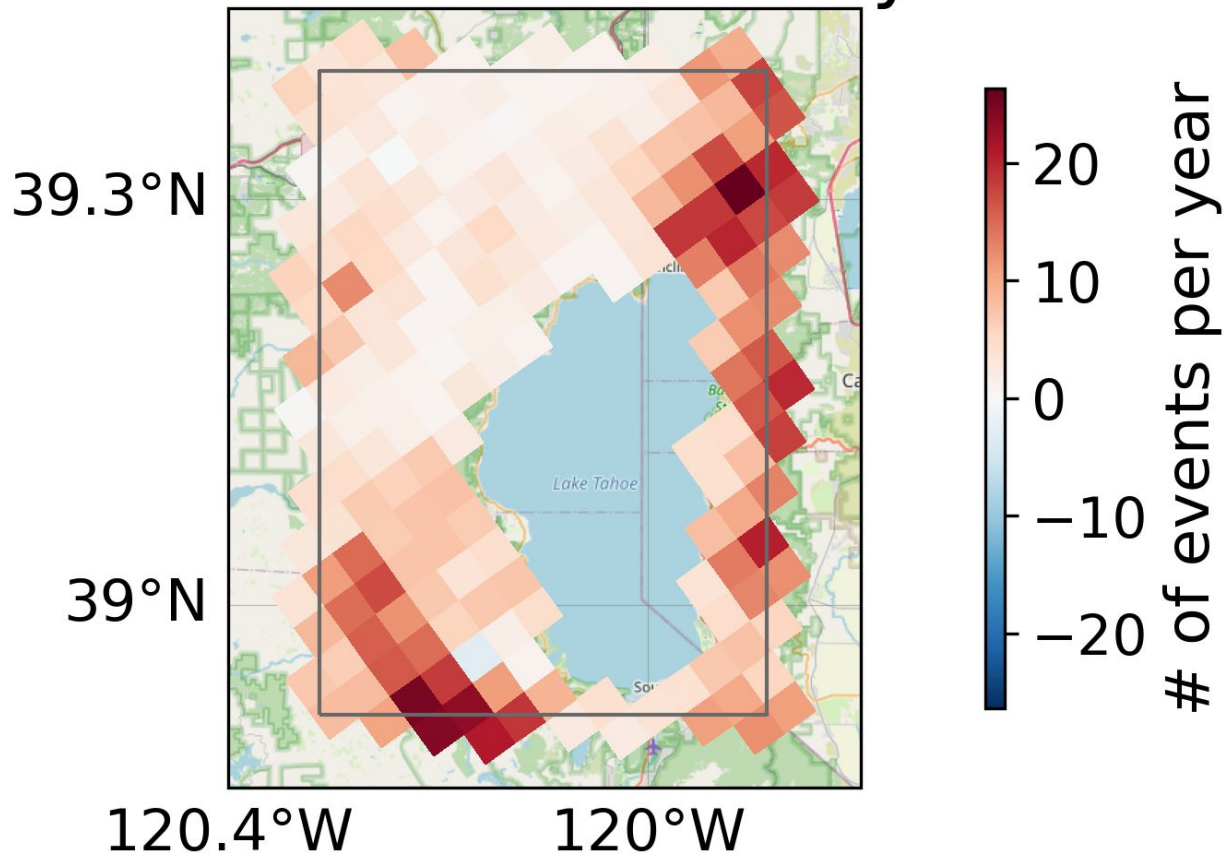
Mid-to-late century



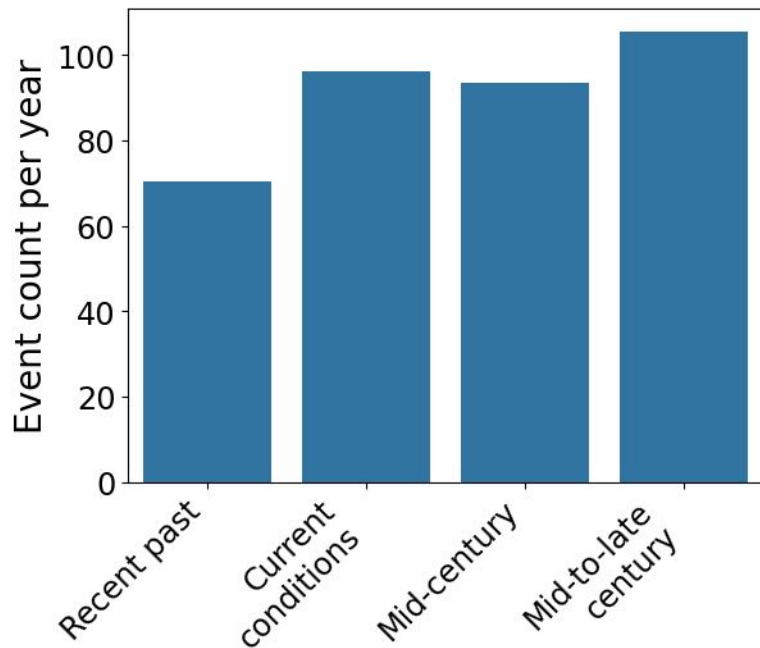
CAL-ADAPT

Climate Drivers of Fire in Truckee

Change by
mid-to-late century



Windy Days Following Drought



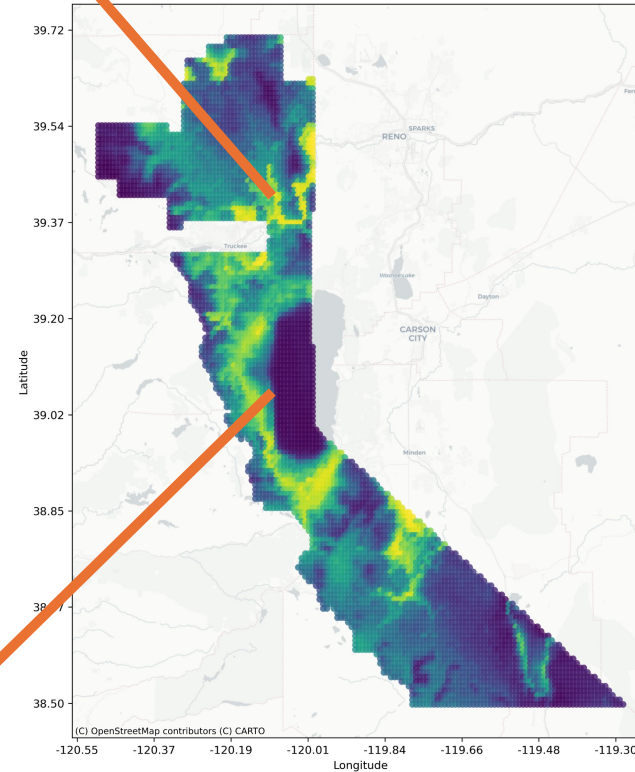
Climate Drivers of Fire in Truckee:

- Days with wind over 15 mph following a 3 month long dry period

CAL-ADAPT

for Incident Response

2024 Updated Liberty Stations Similarity Score
Weather Station Quality Threshold 2 of 5: low/state



More similar



Less similar



Thank you for your time!

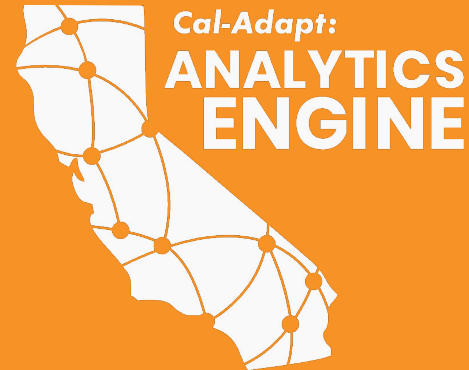
Please get in touch:

analytics@cal-adapt.org

Learn more by visiting our websites!

Analytics Engine: analytics.cal-adapt.org

Cal-Adapt: cal-adapt.org





Forest Carbon and Climate Program
Department of Forestry
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY



NEW! Scan this
code to open
our new report
for California

Effects of Forest Management & Wood Utilization on Carbon Sequestration & Storage in California

Nadia Tase

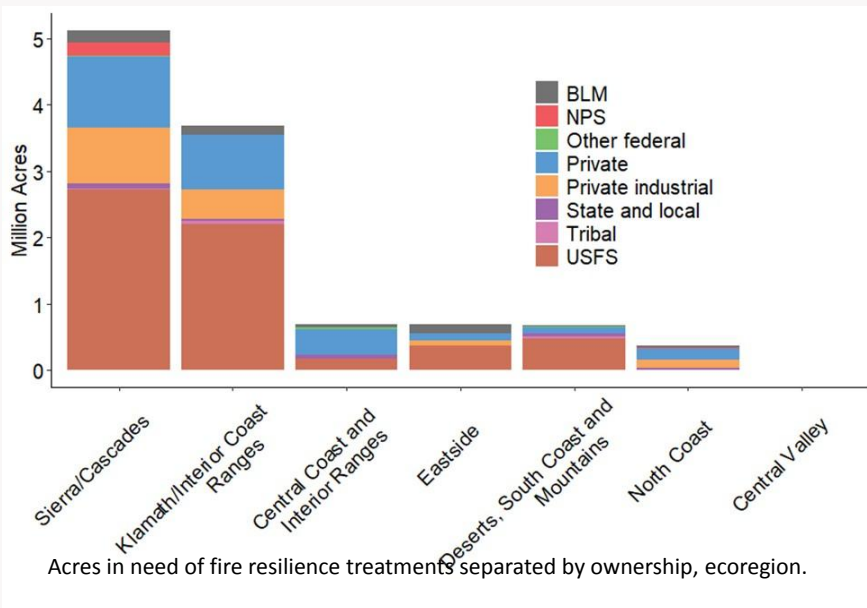
**Forest Health Research & Monitoring Program
Manager Fire and Resource Assessment
Program, CAL FIRE**

Sam Evans

**Research
Economist Fire and Resource Assessment
Program, CAL FIRE**

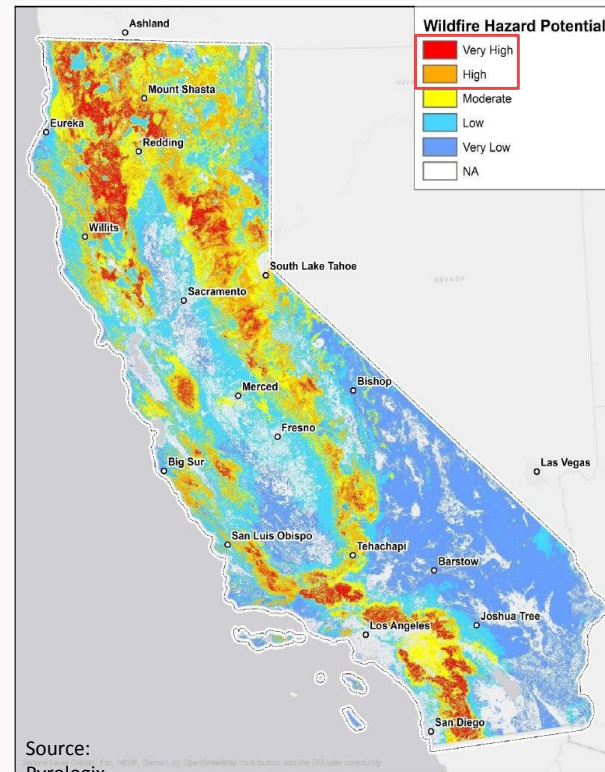
PI: Kendall DeLyser

Senior Director, Climate Science, American Forests



- **11.2 million acres (36%)** need fire resilience treatments (slopes <70%).
- After applying filters, only **7.3 million acres** likely to be eligible.
- Includes pushing slope limits, increasing removal intensity, treating w/in wildlife habitat in some cases.

Treated at a steady rate over 10 years, this equates to an average of **735,000 acres per year in addition to**



Wildfire hazard potential (WHP) indicates areas likely to burn and likely to be difficult to control.

Modeled Portfolios

<u>Scenario Portfolios</u>	Acres/yr
Ramp up = BAU + reforestation/resilience tx	1.3 M
Max Natural Climate Solutions (Max NCS) = BAU + Ramp up + reduced deforestation + silvopasture + extended rotations (applied to some BAU acres)	1.4 M

Influence of current and future conditions in California

Future conditions include more high-severity **wildfire**, post-fire **regeneration challenges**, and **declines in productivity**

- **82%** of forest could fail to regrow after severe wildfire

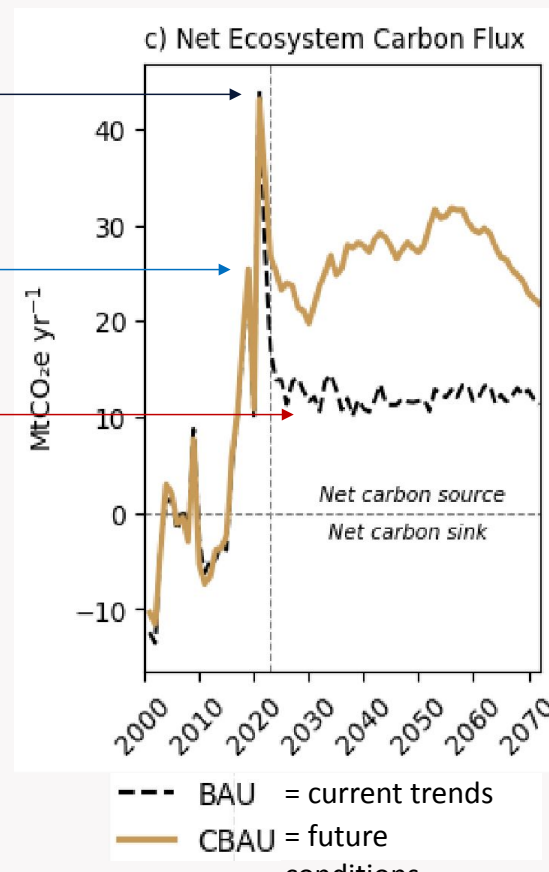
- Projected over the next 50 years:

- **48%** loss of forest area (15M acres)
- **50%** decline in carbon stocks
- **49%** higher carbon emissions
- **70%** of losses occur on NFS
 - 14.8 M $\square$ 4.5 M acres
 - Reforestation need accumulates to 9M acres

2020:
Emissions
from
wildfire

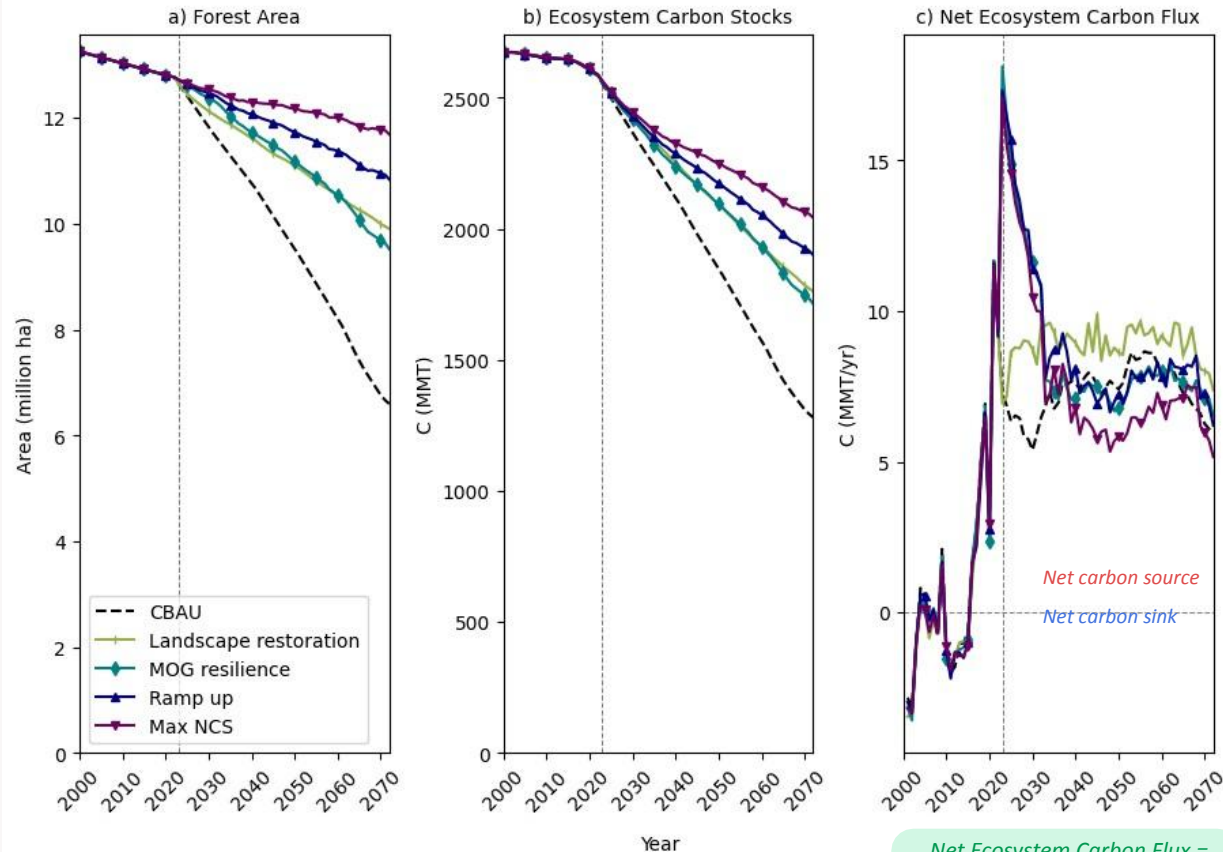
2015: Loss of
productivity from
insect-driven tree
mortality

2022-2071: Forests are
a net carbon source
even if current trends
continue— and
expected future
conditions make this
worse



Forest ecosystem trends

- Max NCS scenario best conserves overall forest area: **-8%** from 2022-2071 (40% better than CBAU)
- Max NCS scenario minimizes carbon stock losses: **-20%** from 2022-2071 (30% better than CBAU)
- Cumulative post-fire regeneration failure decreases from **12.7** to **2.3** million acres



Net Ecosystem Carbon Flux =
Growth – Decomposition –
Disturbance emissions –
Harvest transfers

Restoring resilience in California forests

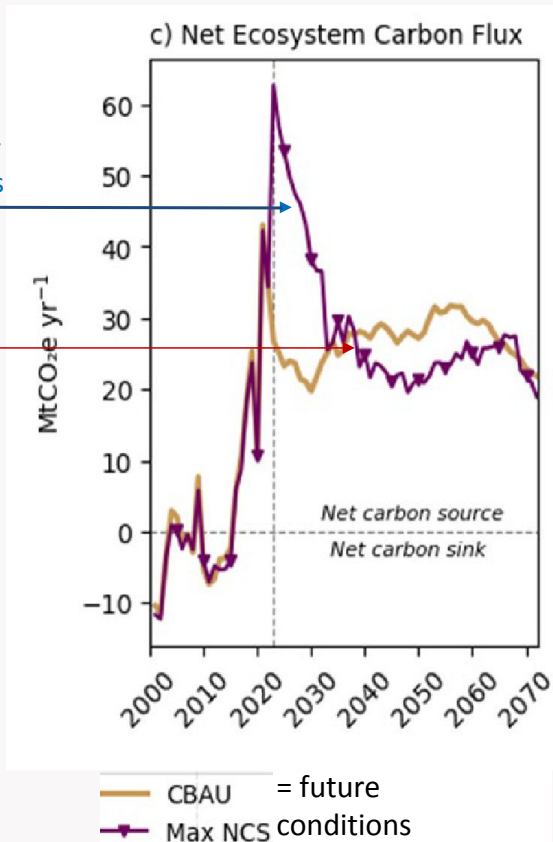
- Successful fire resilience and restoration treatments:
 - Reduce future wildfire severity and post-fire regeneration failure; increase stand age
 - Protect **40%** of forest from wildfire-related losses
 - Incur an up-front carbon cost to **stabilize forests** in the future
- There is a **limited window of time** to act before future conditions intensify.
- NFS lands see strong benefits from restoring resilience, but treatments need to **ramp up 3X**
 - area losses reduced from **10.3 M to 1.7 M** acres.
- The Sierra/Cascades comprise 55% of the forest area and carbon stock losses. Max NCS reduces forest area losses from 8.3 million acres to 1.2 million acres.

Restoring resilience to California forests can reduce annual forest carbon emissions by **14%** and cumulative emissions by **6%** in California over the next 50 years.

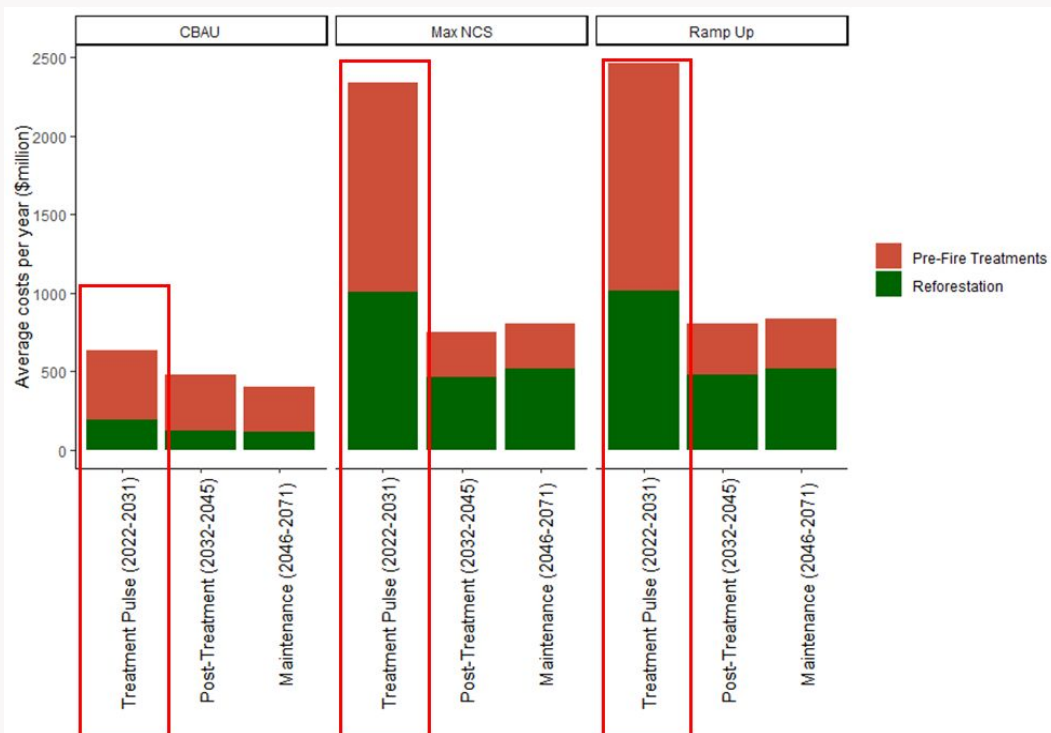
2022-2031: Higher emissions and removals

2035: Higher emissions from future conditions

from treatment



Economics results

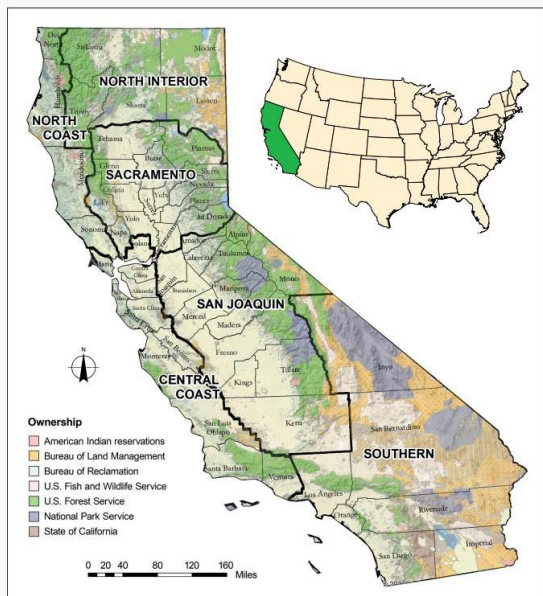


- \$1.7 - \$1.8 billion annually in pre-fire treatment and post-fire restoration
 - \$896 - \$1,009 million annually for pre-fire treatment
 - \$811 - \$819 million annually for post-fire restoration
- Moderate log and biomass pricing assumptions suggest **39-50% of costs can be offset** through wood product sales if **capacity to process is available**.
 - Sawlog sales, not biomass, pay for the treatments.

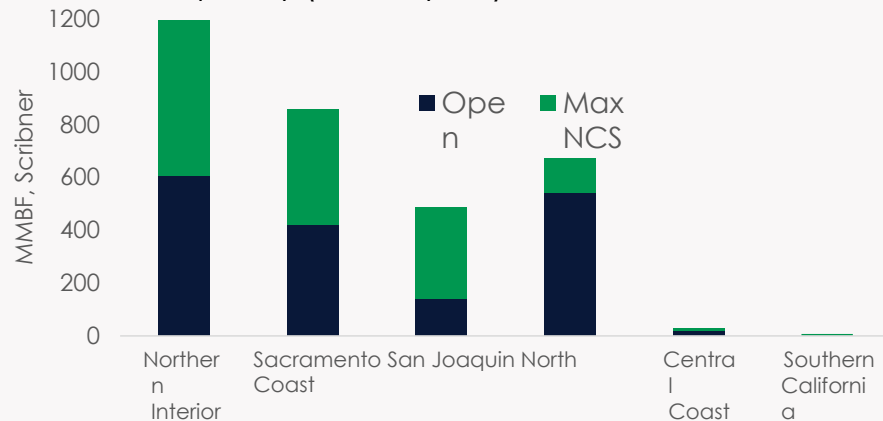
Capacity Needs

Sawmills: additional 1.5 – 1.6 billion BF per year (29-31 average size mills)

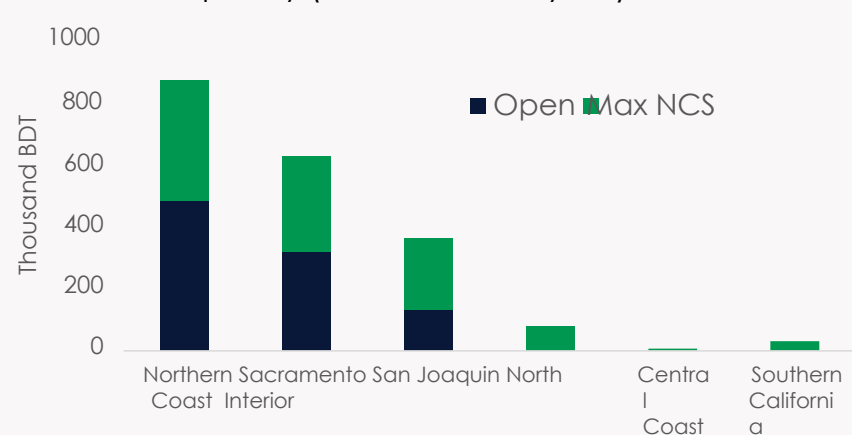
Biomass Facilities: 1.0 – 1.2 million BDT per year (8-9 large scale bioenergy facilities)



Sawmill Capacity (MMBF/year)



Biomass Capacity (thousand BDT/year)





Questions?

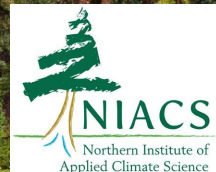
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Kendall DeLyser – Senior Director, Climate Science, American Forests
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Truckee Fire Protection District



Avoiding Wildfire Losses & Emissions



Photo: Homes Survive 2024
Davis Fire near Reno &
Washoe Valley

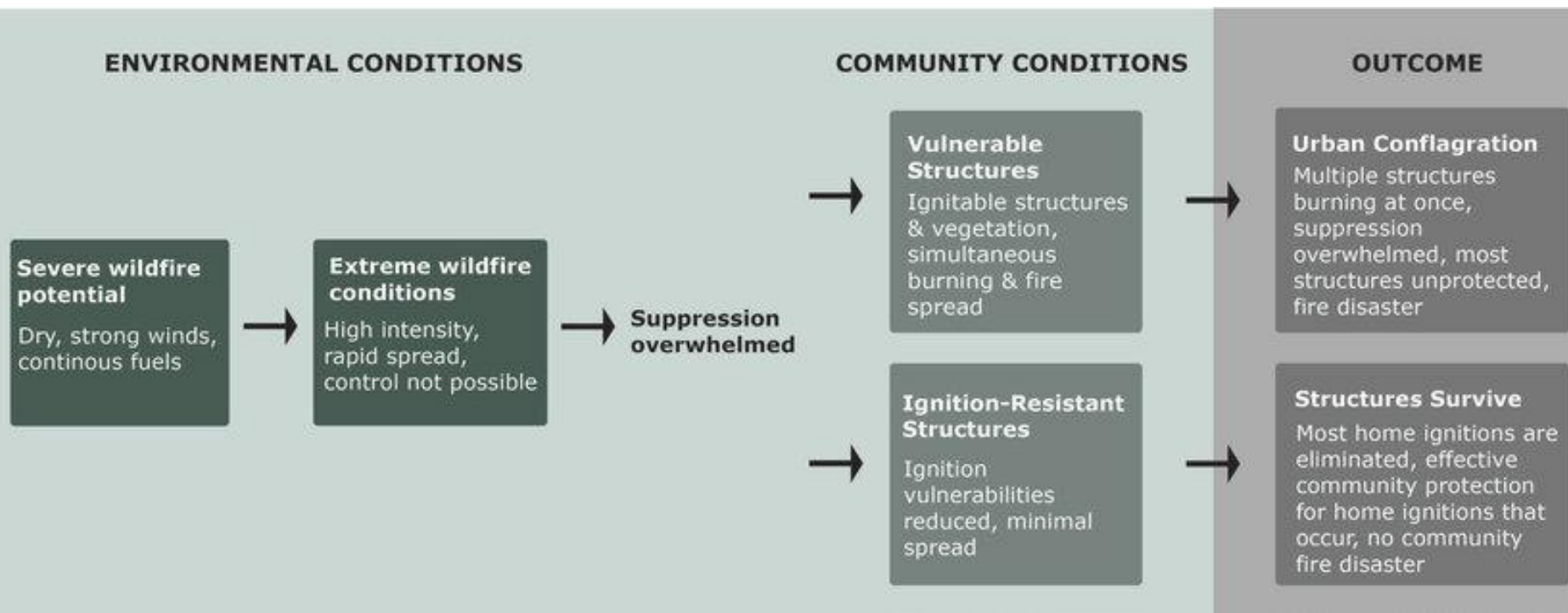


Avoiding Wildfire Losses & Emissions

- Why – We can't let destructive wildfire happen in Truckee
- Structures & Urban Conflagration
- Open Space & Forests



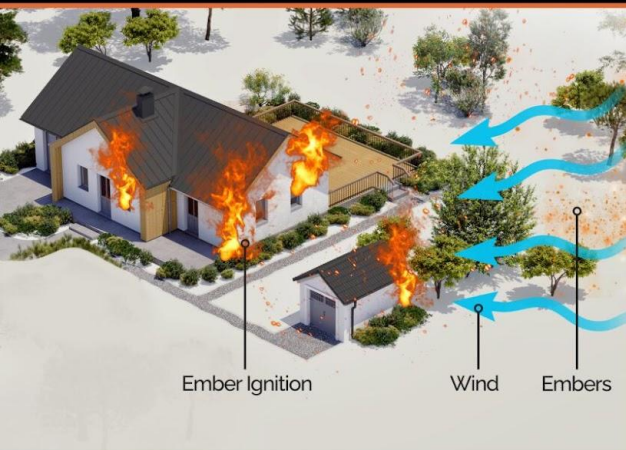
Community Fire Disaster Sequence – Destruction or Resilience? The choice is ours.



THREE REASONS HOUSES BURN DURING A WILDFIRE

Embers

90% of Structure Ignition



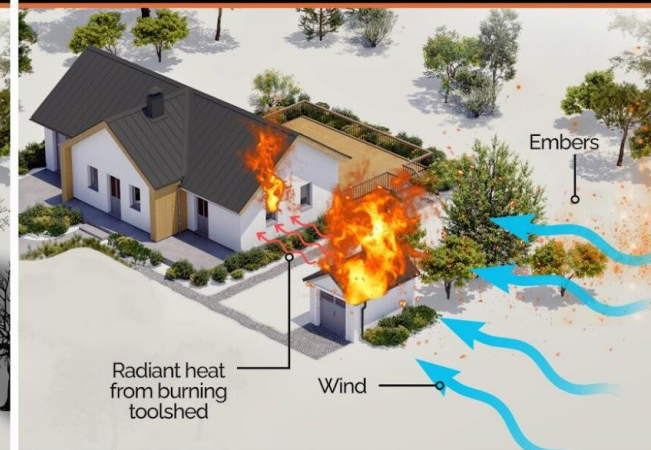
Direct Flame Contact

Continuity of Fuels

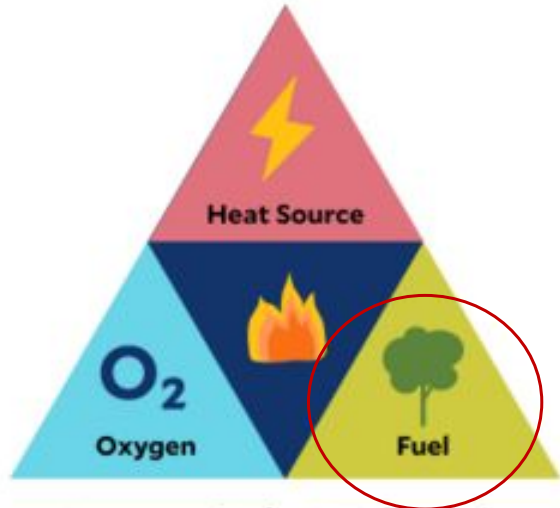


Radiant Heat

Density of Structures

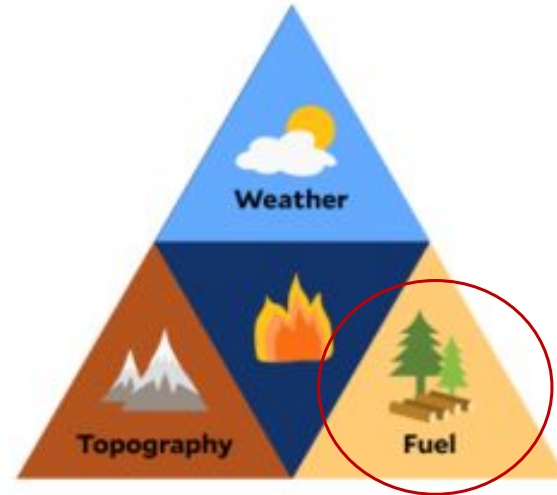


Fire Triangles – Fuel is the Variable We Can Manage!



General Fire Triangle

The three basic components necessary to start and sustain a fire



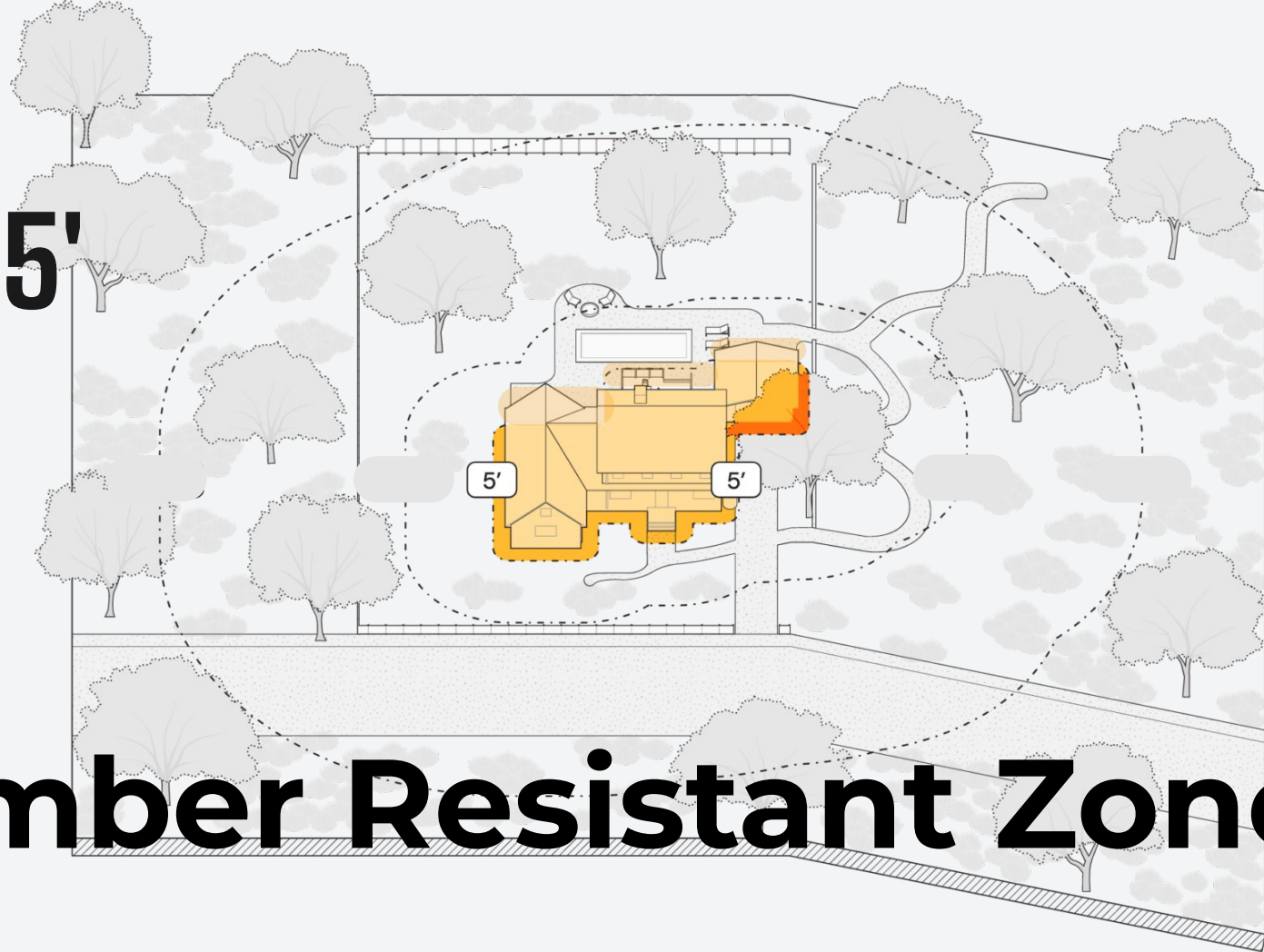
Fire Behavior Triangle

The factors involved in the severity, intensity, duration, size, and season of wildfires

The Home Ignition Problem is Solvable!

- 1 house fire produce ~30-50 metric tons of CO₂
 - ~18 metric tons CO₂ equivalent stored in just lumber
 - Toxic emissions from other household materials
Think CO, SO_x, and NO_x
- Combined Defensible Space & Home Hardening increases home survivability 2-5x
 - The effort and financial expense is worth it
 - The catch is that it needs to be done at scale to reduce risk and exposure across property lines

ZONE
0 ^{TO} **5'**
ZERO



Ember Resistant Zone

Home Hardening.



HARDEN YOUR HOME

Make the **RIGHT** Choices for Wildfire Resistance

① ROOF

Wood shingle

② EAVES

Open | Exposed

③ SIDING

Wood Siding

④ WINDOWS

Single pane
No screens

⑤ MULCH

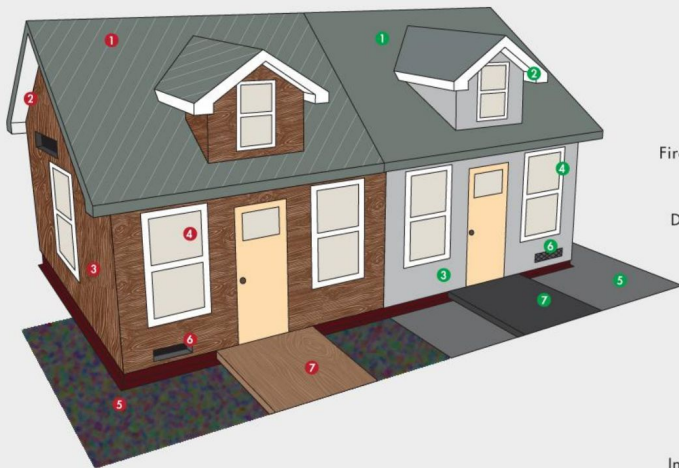
Bark | Wood Chips

⑥ OPENINGS

Non-Protected
Vents | Openings

⑦ DECK

Standard spacing
Combustible material



ROOF ①

Class A
Fire resistive

EAVES ②

Closed | Boxed

SIDING ③

Fire resistive material

WINDOWS ④

Dual-Pane Tempered
Screens

MULCH ⑤

Rock | Pebbles

OPENINGS ⑥

Metal screened
Vents | Openings

DECK ⑦

Increased joist space
Foil-faced bitumen tape
on top of joists
Non-combustible | Fire resistive

Truckeefire.org/HardenYourHome

- DIY Guides
- Retailer Supply Lists
- CATT Contractor List *coming soon!*
- Truckee Fire Rebate

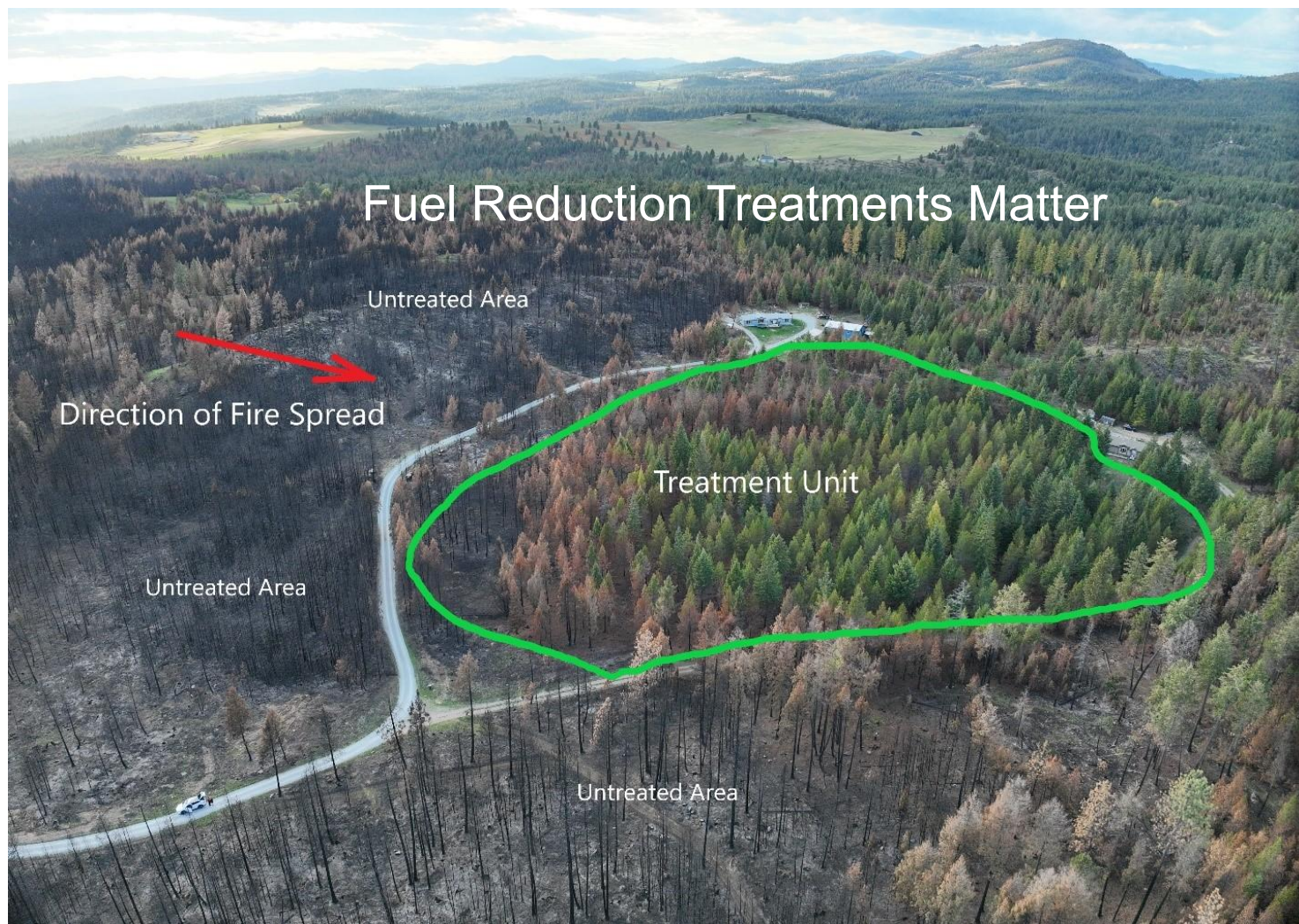
truckeefire.org/hardenyourhome
hardenyourhome@truckeefire.org

What we are doing as a community

- 3-year Defensible Space Inspection cycle = 5,000+ inspections annually
 - 25-50 scheduled in-person inspections per week
- Residential Green Waste Buffet
 - Grapple Pick-up Program serves ~4k piles annually, reduces single vehicle trips to the dump
- 85% of our homes in 35 active Firewise communities taking charge
- Home Hardening Rebate
- Local Block Grant Program
- ...



Fuel Reduction Treatments Matter



Appropriate Forest Management Matters

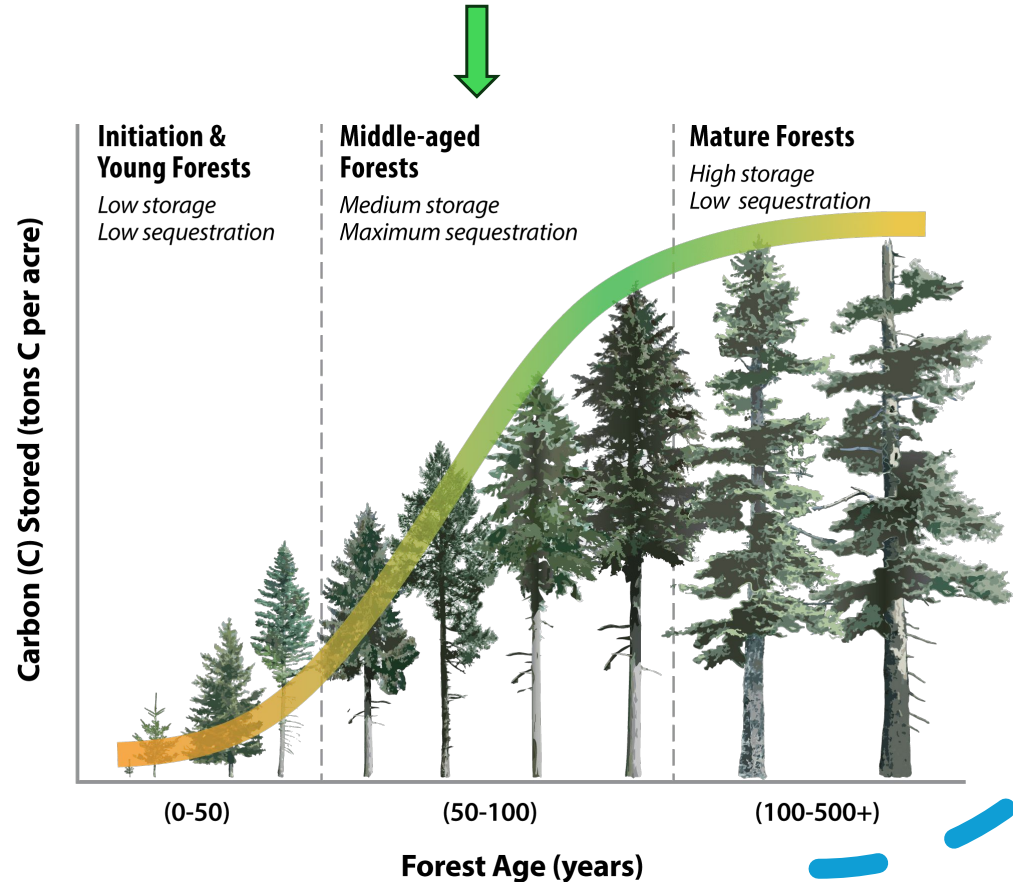
Untreated

Thin + Controlled Burn

Thin Only

Multi-Objective middle-aged forest management

- 1 acre of burning forest can produce 34 tons of CO₂ per acre (CARB 2021), number is highly variable and can be <1 ton/acre



We are proactively working to address 150+ years of mismanagement, fire exclusion, and over-densification and overgrowth

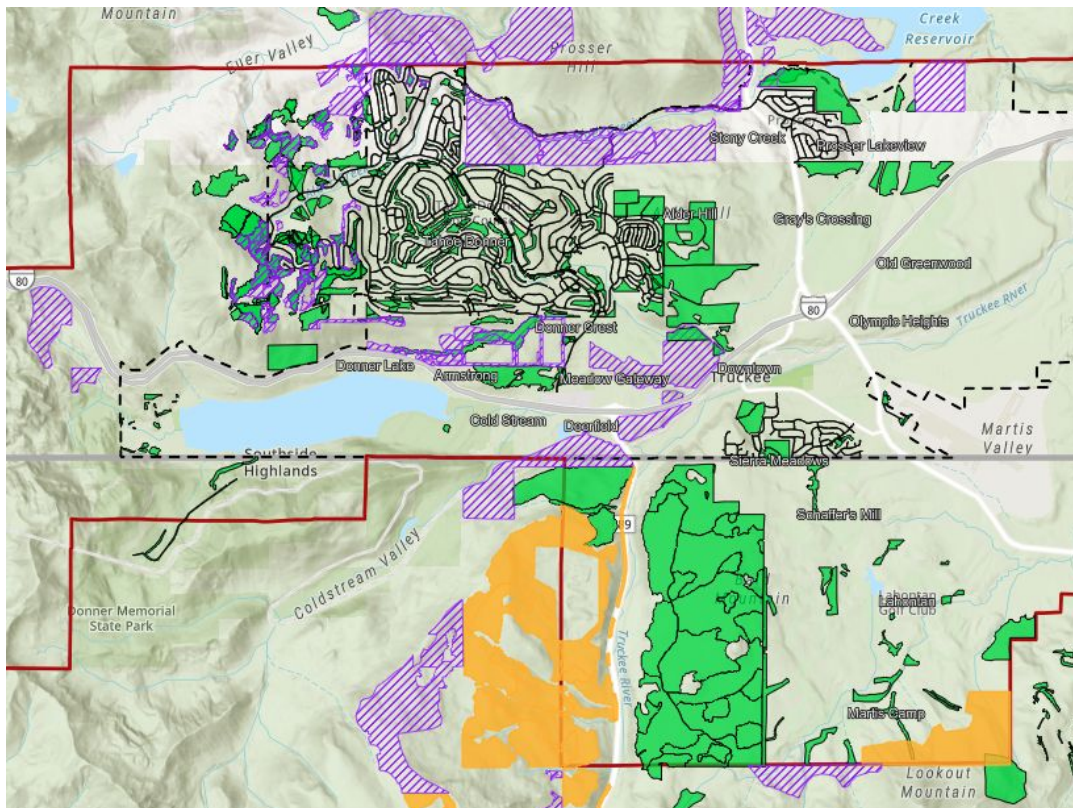
Fire-suppressed Forest



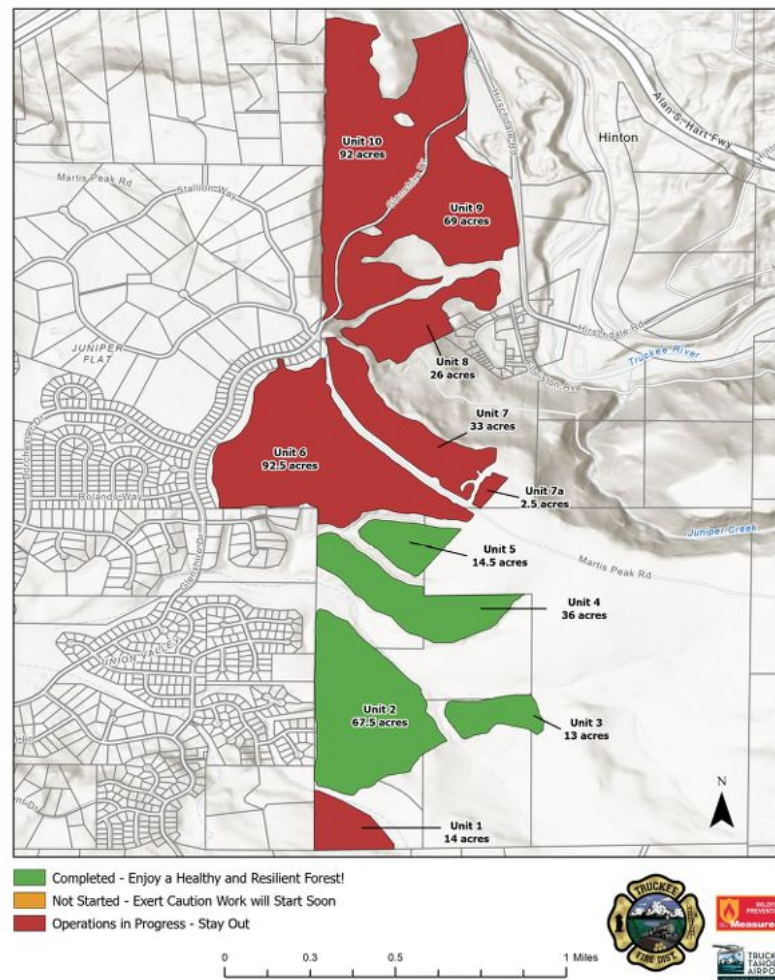
Ecologically managed Forest



Forestry Work In Action!



Glenshire To Hirschdale Egress Fuel Reduction



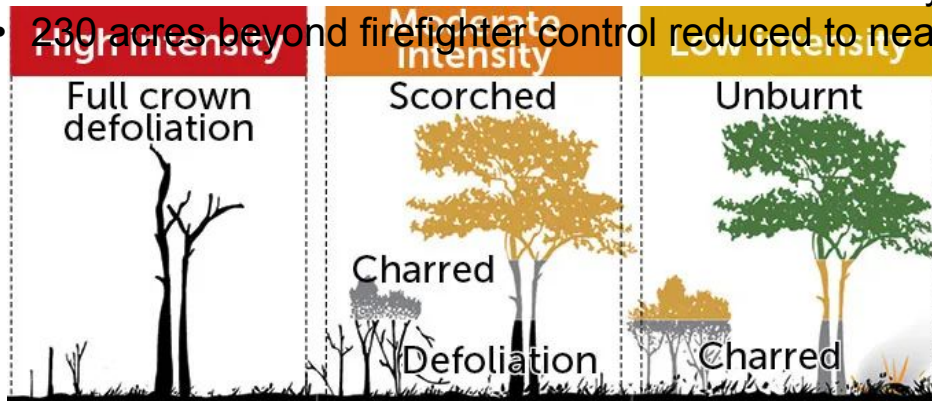
■ Completed - Enjoy a Healthy and Resilient Forest!
■ Not Started - Exert Caution Work will Start Soon
■ Operations in Progress - Stay Out



We can't fire
proof our
forests, but we
can reduce
severity &
intensity

Glenshire to Hirschdale Forest Management Project – Projected and Modeled Outcome Highlights (via Vibrant Planet & Pyrologix)

- 460 acre project east of Glenshire
- Total Wildfire Hazard reduced by 62%
- Characteristic Flame Length from 5' down to less than 2'
- Rate of spread reduced by 77% from 14.3 to 3.3 chains per hour
- Number of Highly Exposed structures near project's edge reduced from 21 to ZERO!
- Source of Ember loads to buildings reduced by 53%
- Acres of WUI with extreme fire behavior reduced by 100%
- 230 acres beyond firefighter control reduced to nearly 0





THANK YOU, Truckee!



Eric Horntvedt
Wildfire Prevention Manager
www.truckeefire.org

01

Clear 5 feet around all structures



Remove pine needles, leaves, and debris, including under decks and stairs. Store woodpiles, gas cans, and other combustibles at least 30 feet from your home.

Pro tip: Rent a 6-yard dumpster or use yard waste carts in Truckee.

02

Remove dead vegetation & manage live vegetation



Clear grasses, weeds, shrubs, and dead trees. Prune tree limbs at least 6 feet above the ground and increase spacing between trees and shrubs.

Pro tip: Use Truckee Fire's green waste pick-up for shrubs, trees, and branches up to 8" in diameter.

03

Make your address visible



Ensure house numbers are at least 4" tall and readable from the road.

Pro tip: Check out Truckee Fire's Reflective Address Sign Program.

04

Schedule a visit from Truckee Fire



Schedule a defensible space inspection with Truckee Fire.

Pro tip: It's free, fast, and gives you a custom checklist to protect your home.

05

Connect with neighbors



Share this info and work together for a Wildfire Resilient Truckee!

Sign up for emergency alerts at tahoealerts.com

Q&A



Thank you!

Please reach out to Sierra Business Council with any questions.

Website: climatetransformationalliance.org

Email: cta@sierrabusiness.org

Phone: (530)582-4800

Sign In Here:



CTA | Climate
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