

A PUBLIC
SERVICE
ANNOUNCEMENT



CALIFORNIA WILD FIRES: FACTS AND PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES

WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH THE
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
WILDFIRES AND HOW TO PREPARE
FOR THE NEXT ONE

WHAT IS A WILDFIRE?

- a fire that rages out of control in the wilderness
- often started by lightning, accidents, or arson
- campers / civilians not taking proper precautions with campfires, cigarettes, etc.
- often start without notice
- they spread very fast, igniting forestry as well as homes
- climate change and urban interference in wildlands has contributed greatly to this increase

WHO'S AT RISK?

- * common in wildland settings that are dry with little rainfall
- * start commonly in middle of day when sun is hot
- * draught and heat keep fires burning

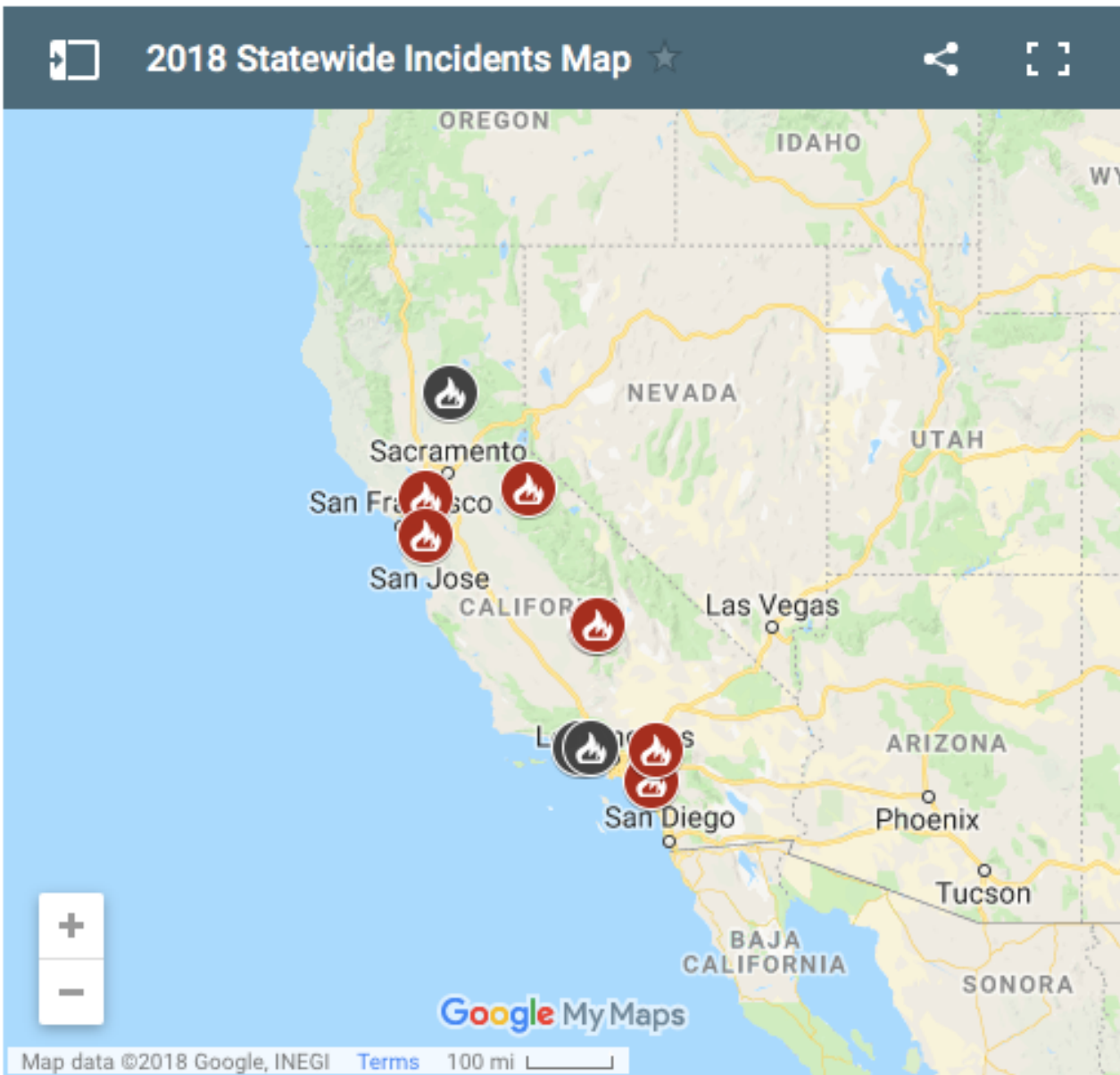


TOOLS TO HAVE:

- * smoke alarms
- * fire extinguisher
- * evacuation plan

WHO'S CURRENTLY STILL AFFECTED?

→ California Statewide Fire Map



[View California Fire Map in a larger map](#)

Active Fire



Contained Fire



Lightning Complex



WWW.FIRE.CA.ORG

WHAT ARE THE FACTS?

- CAL FIRE responds to more than 5,750 wildfires that burn an average of over 265,000 acres each year
- More than 890 people are without asylum from the NorCal fires, seeking refuge at 11 Red Cross and independent community shelters across northern California
- The current CA fires are mostly contained, exceptions include the Nurse, Niles and Sierra Fires
- Fatalities have increased from 84 to 475 as more individuals are reported missing.
- Almost 14,000 homes have been destroyed.
- The current challenge endured by firefighters is the removal of hazardous trees that are still standing but are dead or partially burned and likely to fall.



Annual and Daily Statistics

Daily statistics 11/26/18

Number of new large fires or emergency response	0	States currently reporting large fires: California (3)
Number of active large fires <i>Total does not include individual fires within complexes.</i>	2	
Acres from active fires	159,419	
Fires contained	1	

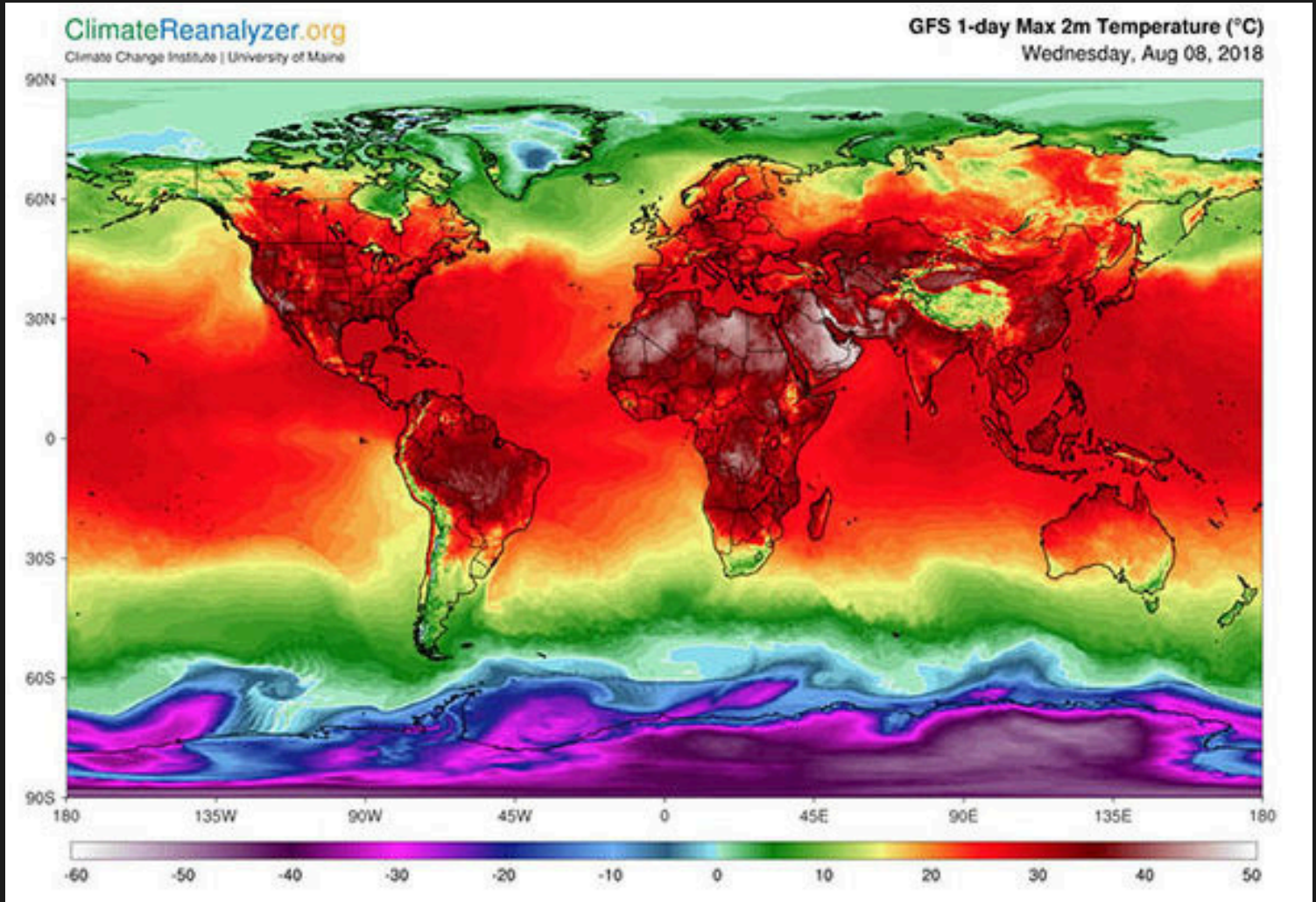
Year-to-date statistics

2018 (1/1/18 - 11/26/18)	Fires: 52,303	Acres: 8,543,463
2017 (1/1/17 - 11/26/17)	Fires: 54,919	Acres: 9,155,287
2016 (1/1/16 - 11/26/16)	Fires: 59,349	Acres: 5,246,620
2015 (1/1/15 - 11/26/15)	Fires: 55,895	Acres: 9,812,481
2014 (1/1/14 - 11/26/14)	Fires: 51,234	Acres: 3,453,978
2013 (1/1/13 - 11/26/13)	Fires: 44,035	Acres: 4,150,708
2012 (1/1/12 - 11/26/12)	Fires: 54,451	Acres: 9,105,254
2011 (1/1/11 - 11/26/11)	Fires: 66,227	Acres: 8,294,437
2010 (1/1/10 - 11/26/10)	Fires: 66,013	Acres: 3,305,227
2009 (1/1/09 - 11/26/09)	Fires: 77,243	Acres: 5,899,790
2008 (1/1/08 - 11/26/08)	Fires: 77,243	Acres: 5,256,822

10-year average Year-to-Date

2008-2017	Fires: 60,380	Acres: 6,351,357
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ANOTHER CAUSE? GLOBAL HEATWAVE



It appears that the entire planet is experiencing a heat surge that could be a great contributor to the grandiosity of these wildfires.

HOW CAN WE EDUCATE OURSELVES?



- If you have been notified that you are under wildfire warning, get to safety immediately
- Leave if told to do so.
- If trapped, call 9-1-1.
- Listen for emergency information and alerts.
- Use N95 masks to keep particles out of the air you breathe.
- Have an evacuation plan
- Ensure your Emergency Supply Kit is in your vehicle.
- Cover-up to protect against heat and flying embers. Wear long pants, long sleeve shirt, heavy shoes/boots, cap, dry bandanna for face cover, goggles or glasses. 100% cotton is preferable.
- Locate your pets and take them with you.
(readyforwildfire.org)

WHAT CAN WE DO TO HELP?



So many people have been left devastated from these blazing fires that have caused destruction to peoples' lives, homes and communities. People are seeking refuge through American Red Cross where they can be provided with food, safety, and shelter. However, they cannot do it alone. Visit redcross.org to donate to those in need.

Resources

- California, State of. "California Statewide Fire Map." CAL FIRE - Home, www.fire.ca.gov/general/firemaps.
- "California Wildfires Contained, Hundreds Remain Displaced." American Red Cross, www.redcross.org/about-us/news-and-events/news/2018/california-wildfires-red-cross-helps-as-thousands-evacuate.html.
- InciWeb developed and maintained by USDA Forest Service, Fire and Aviation Management, helpdesk@dms.nwcg.gov. "InciWeb the Incident Information System." Mendocino Complex Information - InciWeb the Incident Information System, inciweb.nwcg.gov/.
- "GO! EVACUATION GUIDE." Home - Ready For Wildfire, www.readyforwildfire.org/Go-Evacuation-Guide/.
- "Wildfires." Citizen Corps | Ready.gov, www.ready.gov/wildfires.
- Gabbert, Bill. "California Archives." Wildfire Today, wildfiretoday.com/tag/california/.