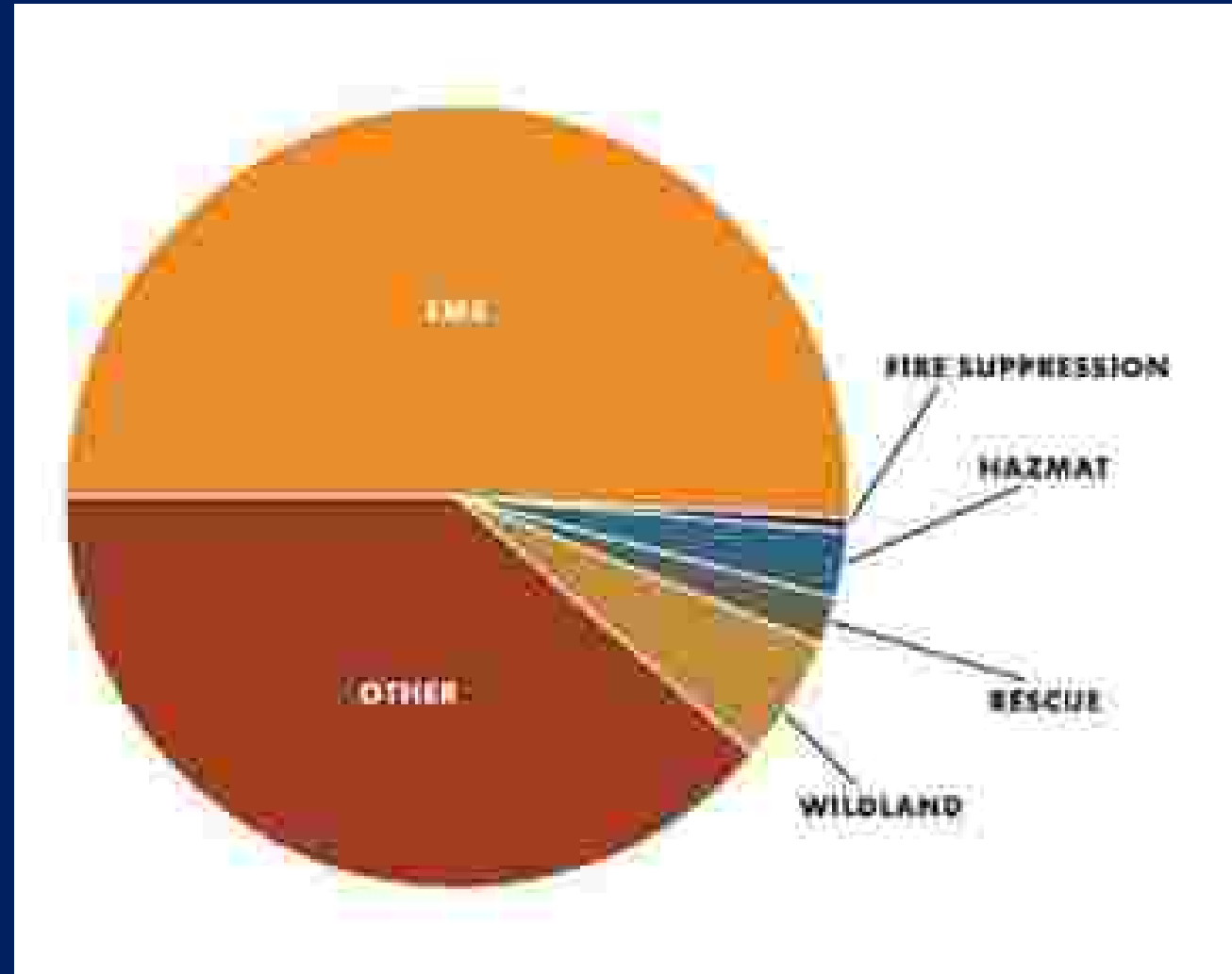


- 5 Fire Stations, 1 Training Facility, 1 Administrative Building
- 109.5 Square miles
- 165 uniformed, 11 civilian
- 3 Shifts, 6 Divisions





All-hazard, all
phases of the
emergency
management
life-cycle



- **MISSION:** We are honored to be entrusted with the safety and welfare of our members and the community. We are dedicated and proud to provide exceptional services for the preservation of life, the environment, and property.
- **OUR VISION:** We strive to serve the unique needs of the community.
- **OUR VALUES:** We strive to exceed expectations through Professionalism, Accountability, and Respect.



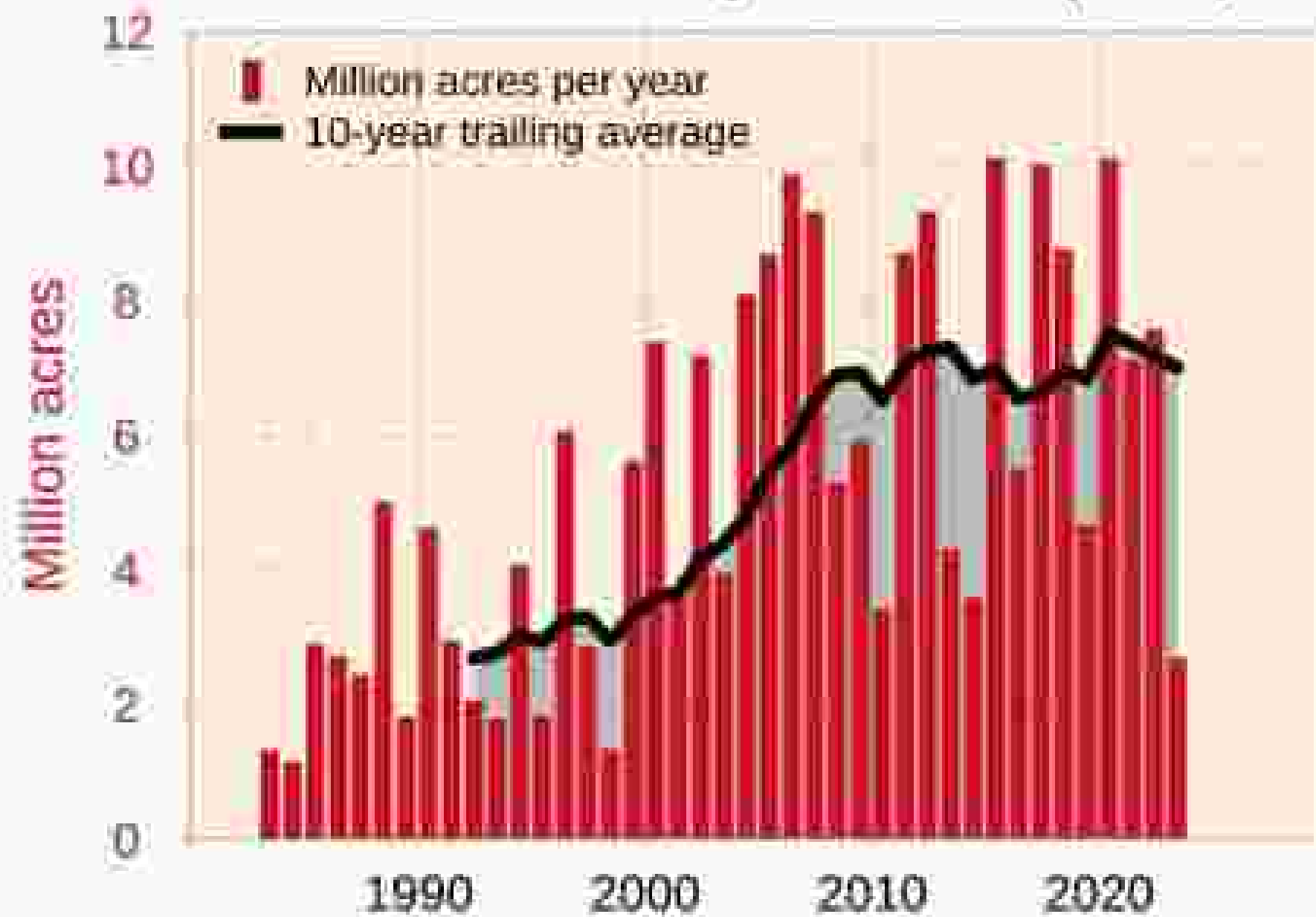


Ready, Set, Go!

Wildfire Preparedness in Los Alamos County

Los Alamos County Fire Department

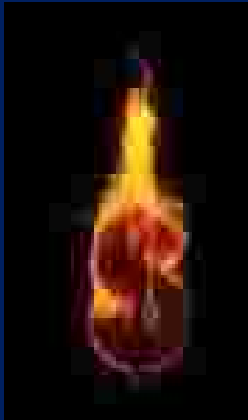
Area burned by wildfires (U.S.)

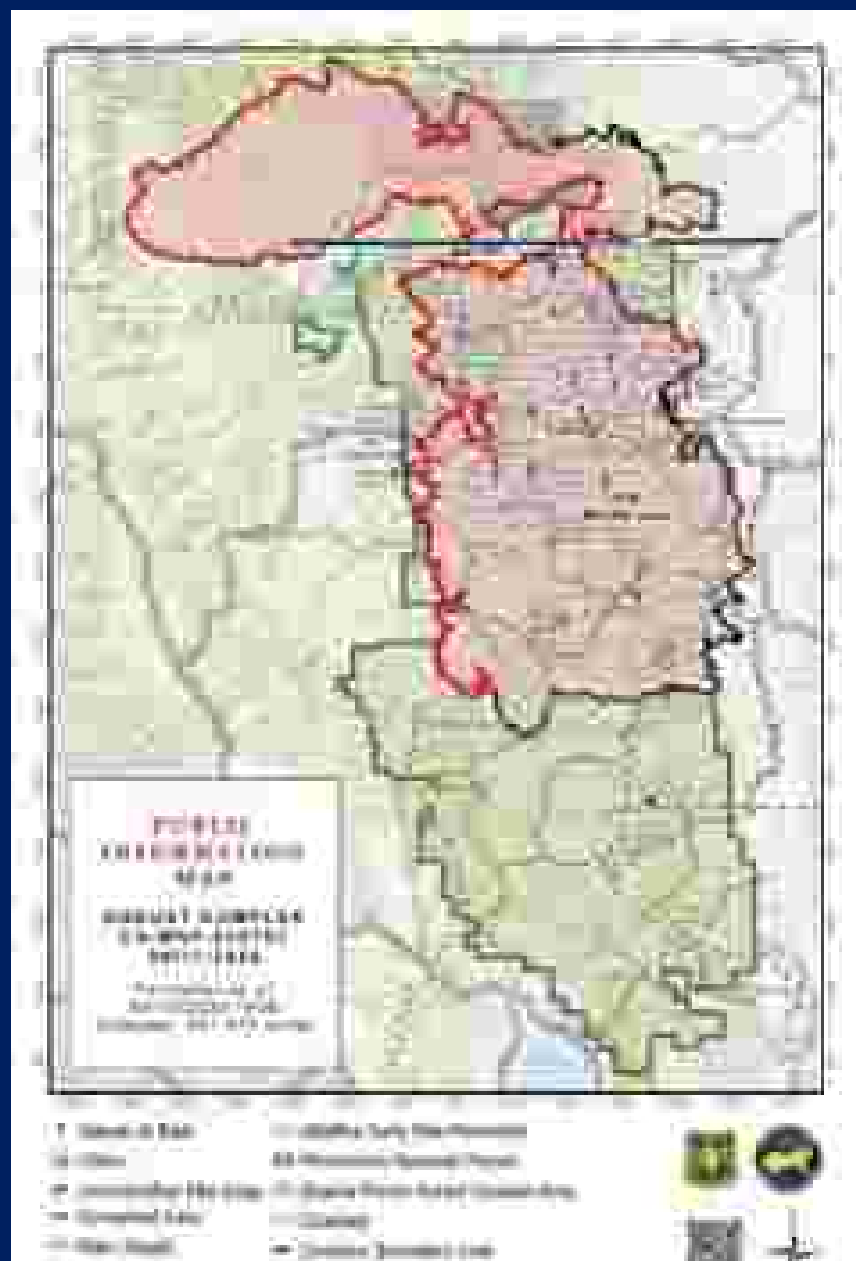
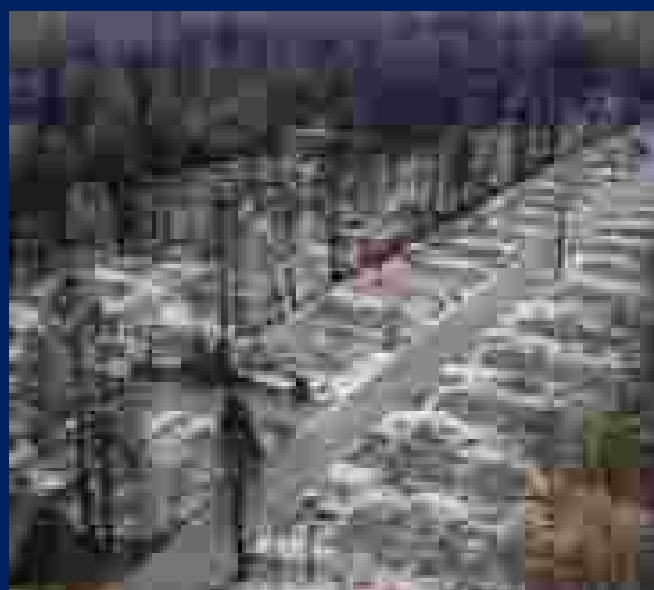




1935 – 10AM rule

- 1980s – 2M
- 1990s – 3M
- 2000s – 6M
- 2010s – 8M
- 2020s – 10M













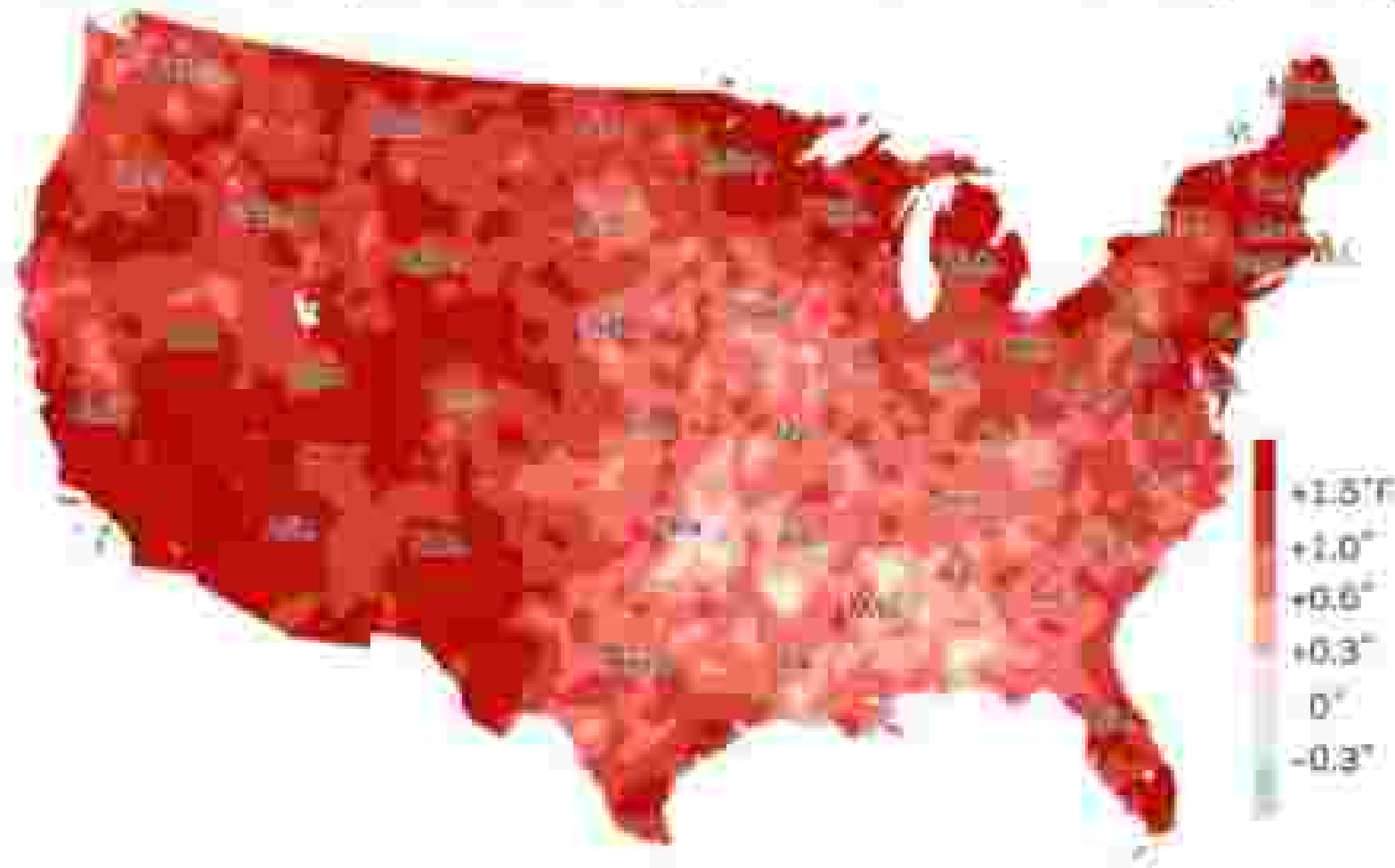




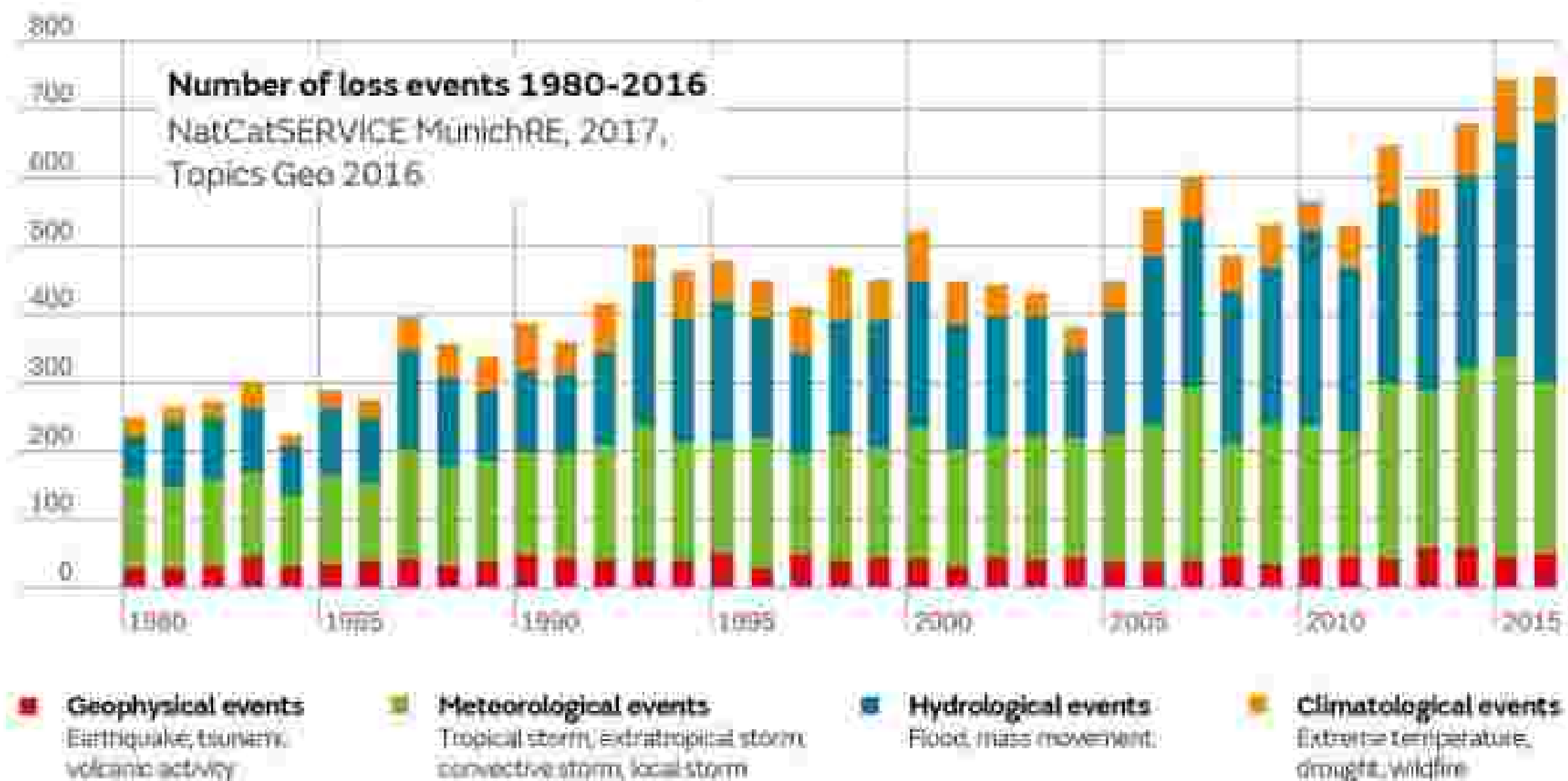




1991–2020 temperatures compared with 20th century average



Are extremes becoming more frequent?



Fire Adapted Communities

Human populations and communities are as prepared as possible to receive, respond to and recover from wildfire



SCIENCE

Safe, Effective, Wildfire Response

All jurisdictions participate in making and implementing safe, effective and risk-based management decisions



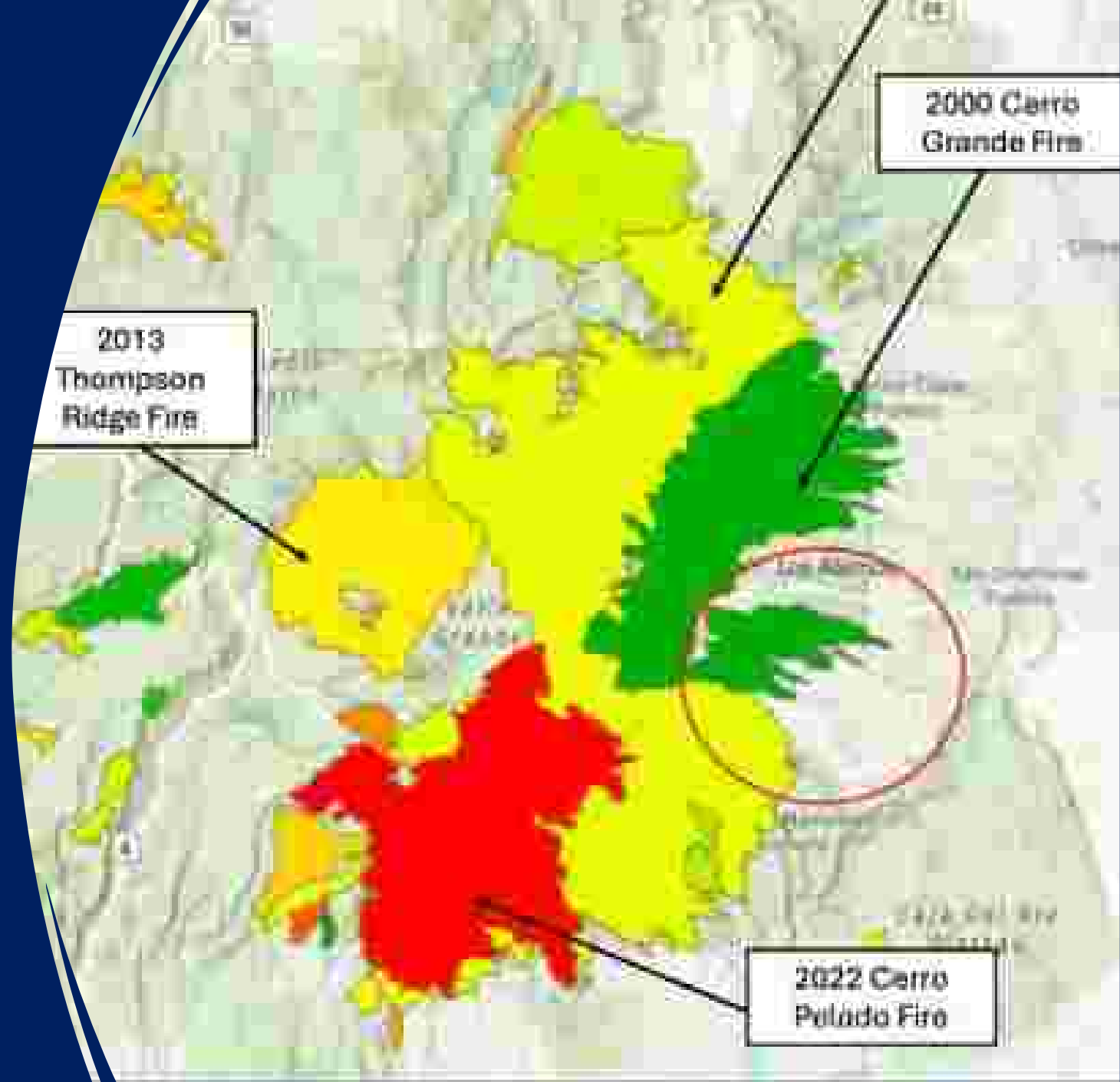
Resilient Landscapes

Landscapes, regardless of jurisdictional boundaries, are resilient to fire, insect and disease disturbances

Wildfire Preparedness in Los Alamos County

Los Alamos County Burn History

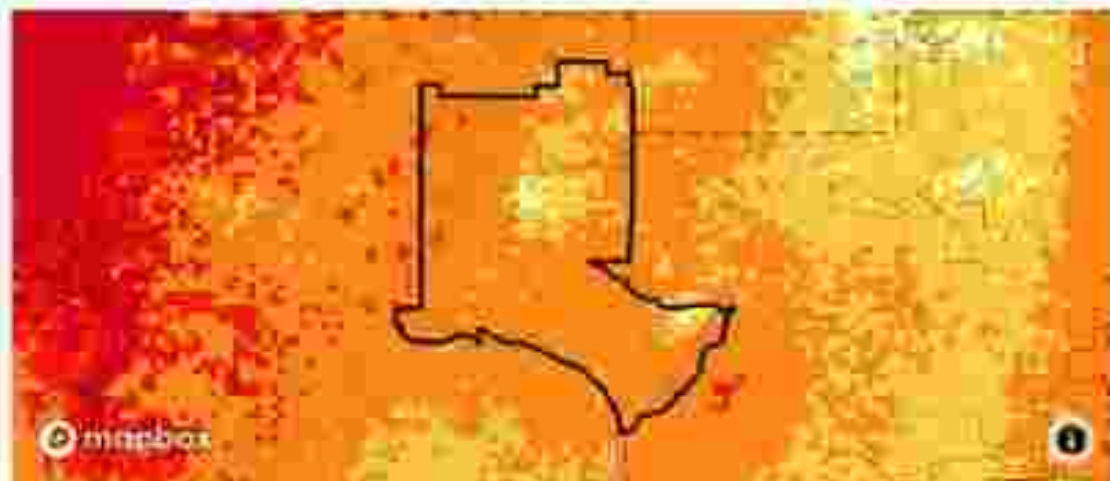
- 2000 Cerro Grande Fire – 43,000 acres
- 2011 Los Conchas Fire – 148,000 acres
- 2013 Thompson Ridge Fire – 23,968 acres
- 2022 Cerro Pelado Fire – 45,604 acres



Risk to Homes

Where are homes at risk of wildfire?

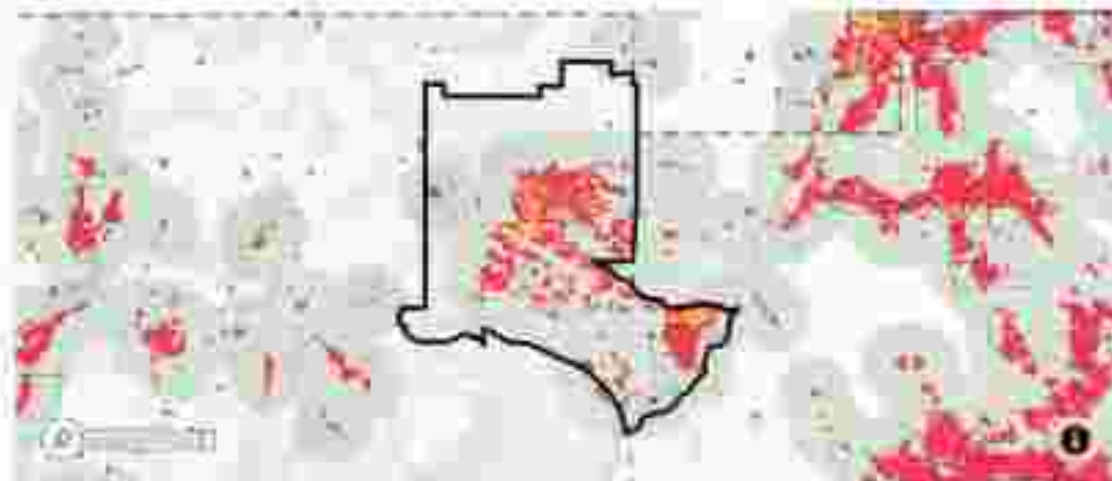
High



Risk Reduction Zones

Which actions are most effective to reduce risk?

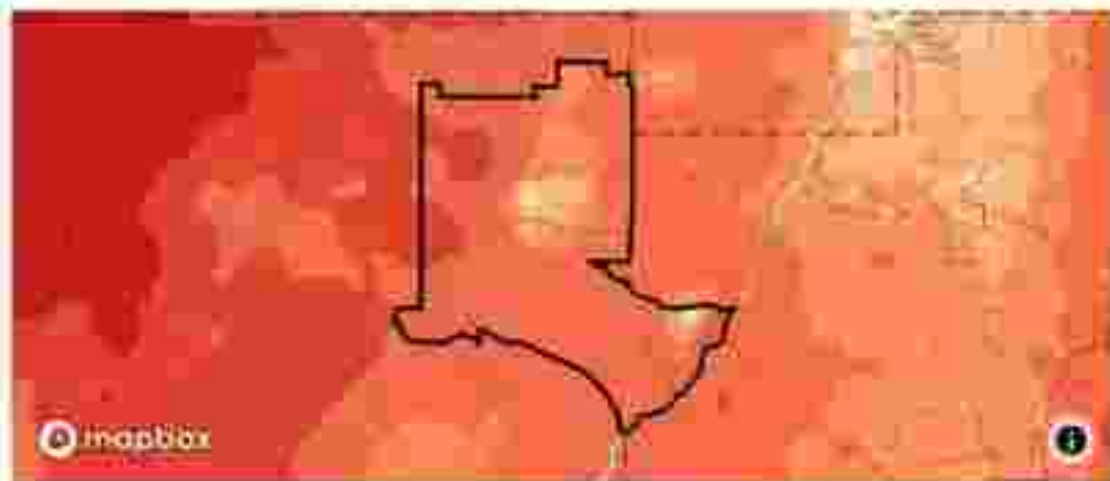
Very High



Wildfire Likelihood

How likely is a wildfire in this area?

High



Vulnerable Populations

Who is most at risk and how do you reach them?

Med





LAFD Mitigation Work



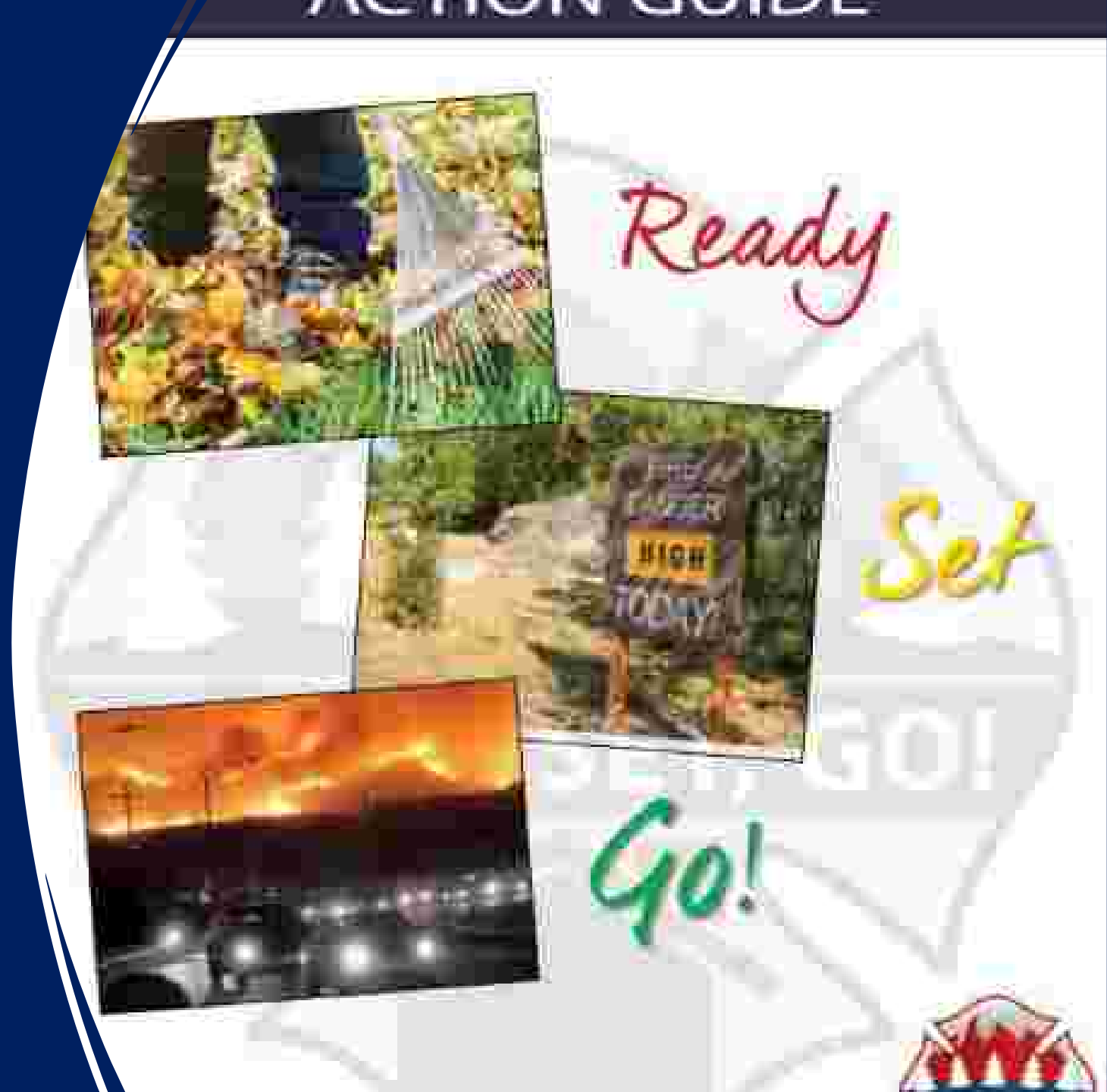
Future Mitigation Areas

Los Alamos IAFC FDX

- Share knowledge between FD
- Improve practices and procedures
- Consider Alternative Solutions
- Build a network of professional leadership for continued collaboration



Wildland Fire Action Guide



IWUIC 2021 and IBHS

- IWUIC I(International Wildland-Urban Interface Code) Chapter 5 and 6
 - Mandatory municipal building and safety code
- IBHS (Institute for Business and Home Safety)
 - Voluntary, science-based mitigation and designation program



Comparison – IWUIC 2021 and IBHS

Criteria	IWUIC 2021	IBHS Minimum Prescribed Home	Technical Differences
Roof Covering	Class A roof required for WUI zones (all of LAR)	Class A roof required for designation	Aligned: IBHS emphasizes roof condition and debris removal
Vents	Mesh Screening per code (1/8")	Ember-resistant vents tested for intrusion	IBHS performance-based testing focus
15-ft Zone	Vegetation clearance varies by hazard severity	Strict noncombustible zone required	IBHS more prescriptive in immediate zone
Decks	Ignition-resistant construction	Ember protection edging control	IBHS adds ember intrusion emphasis
Maintenance	Ongoing compliance expected	Annual re-verification required	IBHS formal documentation requirement



Criteria	IBHS Minimum Prescribed Home	Technical Differences
Roof Covering	Class A roof required for WUI zones (all of LAR)	Class A roof required for designation
Vents	Mesh Screening per code (1/8")	Ember-resistant vents tested for intrusion
15-ft Zone	Vegetation clearance varies by hazard severity	Strict noncombustible zone required
Decks	Ignition-resistant construction	Ember protection edging control
Maintenance	Ongoing compliance expected	Annual re-verification required

Are we wildfire ready?





Ready!

- Put together a go kit.
- Create a checklist of valuables if you need to leave quickly.
- Register for Public Warning Messages to get updates.
- Have evacuation plan for your family and animals.



Defensible Space

Fuel modification distances

- Moderate hazard: 30 ft | High hazard: 50 ft | Extreme hazard: 100 ft
- Los Alamos County is designated as the most extreme level of risk of a wildland event.

Defensible Space

- Trees are allowed within the *defensible space*, horizontal distance between crowns of adjacent trees and crowns of trees and structures not less than 10 feet



Commentary Figure 603.2.2
10-FOOT SEPARATION BETWEEN TREE CROWNS AND STRUCTURES

- Deadwood and litter shall be regularly removed from trees.
- If grass, ivy, succulents or similar plants are used as ground cover, they are allowed to be within the *defensible space*, provided that they do not form a means of transmitting fire from

Set....Fire Approaching

Outside

- Gather flammable items and move them away from house
- Connect garden hoses and turn on sprinklers-TURN OFF WHEN/IF YOU LEAVE
- Patrol your property to extinguish small fires

Inside

- Close windows and doors
- Move furniture away from windows and doors
- Shut off air conditioning
- Move what you are taking to the car

2011 Las Conchas Fire

....GO!

- Leave before someone tells you! If you feel unsafe, Leave!
- Follow instructions from the police, fire, or other emergency services.
- In evacuations from the area, leave when you are instructed by your zone, and follow evacuation routes!



Questions?

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