

CAPITOL REGION CLIMATE READINESS COLLABORATIVE MEETING

CAL FIRE'S RESPONSE TO CLIMATE CHANGE



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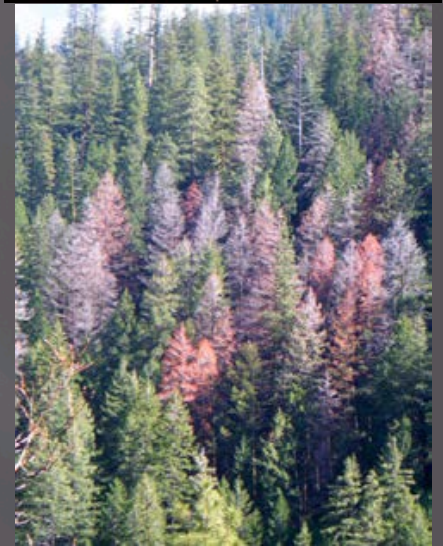
Climate Change and CAL FIRE

Climate Change has direct impacts to CAL FIRE's operations and responsibilities:

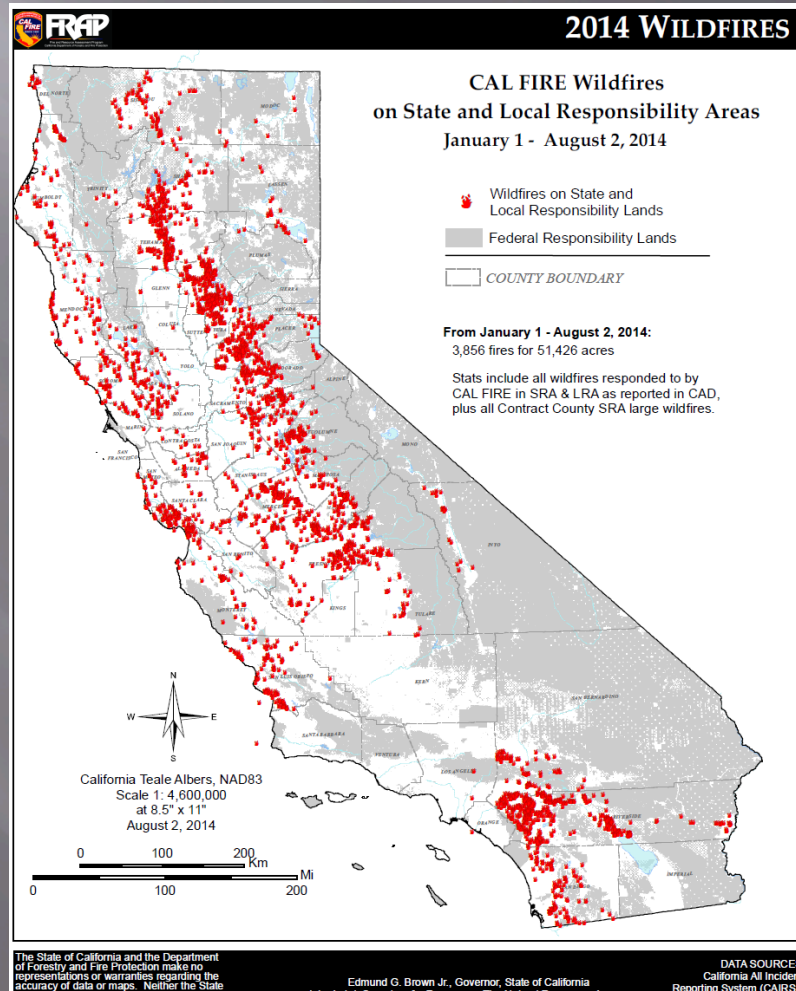
- ❑ Preventing and suppressing fires on over 31 million acres of non-federal wildlands
- ❑ Ensuring sustainable and responsible forestry on over 14 million acres of private timberlands
- ❑ Leader in plans to meet AB 32 Forestry Sector greenhouse gas emission reduction goals

Climate Impacts on Forestry and Fire Protection

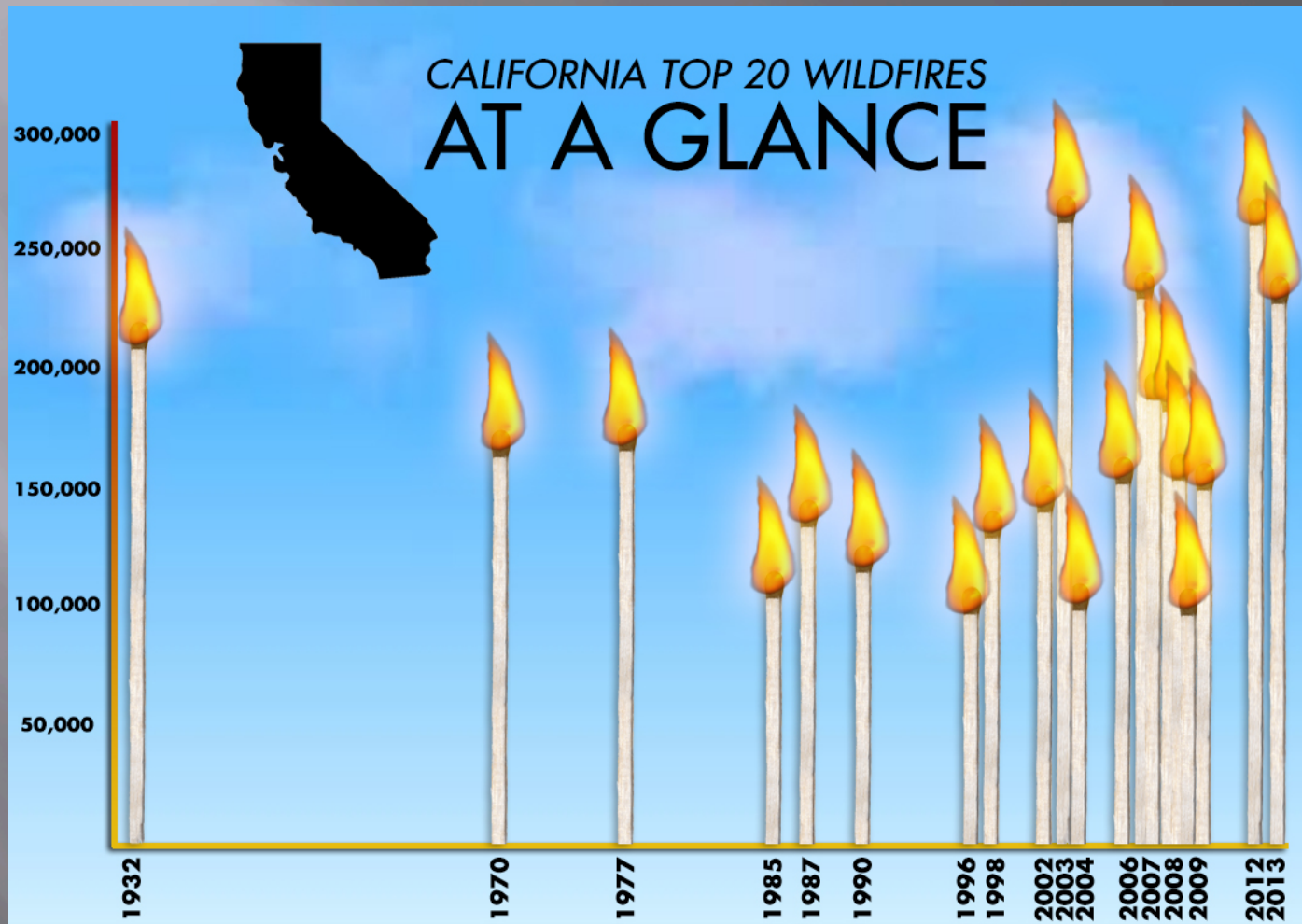
- ❑ More frequent and severe wildfires
- ❑ Elevated levels of forest pests and disease
- ❑ Reduced forest productivity
- ❑ Diminished forest carbon storage capacity
- ❑ Reduction of co-benefits (clean air, habitat, recreation, water quality)



Many more fires this year



More Frequent Large Fires!



CAL FIRE Strategies to adapt to Climate Change

- ❑ California Fire Plan
- ❑ Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund – forest management grant projects
- ❑ SRA Fee Fire Prevention Grant and “FSTEPP” projects
- ❑ Sustainable forest biomass utilization
- ❑ Forest Carbon Plan (FCAT product in 2016)

Strategies to adapt to Climate Change



California Fire Plan

- ❑ Guiding vision to address wildland fire in California
- ❑ 3 main initiatives - Response, Prevention, Planning



CAL FIRE Strategies to adapt to Climate Change

Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund Forest Management Projects

Cap and Trade Auctions Proceeds for forestry projects that support greenhouse gas emission reduction efforts including

- ☐ Forest Pest Control
- ☐ Fuel Reduction with Biomass Utilization
- ☐ Reforestation Services
- ☐ Forest Legacy Conservation Easement
- ☐ Urban Forestry
- ☐ Research
- ☐ Programmatic Environmental Impact Reports

Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund Forest Management Projects

Forest Pest Control

- ❑ Grants to remove and utilize trees infected or at risk to Sudden Oak Death, pine bark beetles, Gold Spotted Oak Borer and
- ❑ Projects will contribute to stabilizing or increasing carbon sequestration; reduce tree damage, mortality and wildfire fuel build-ups; and overall improve forest health and reliance



Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund Forest Management Projects

Fuel Reduction with Biomass Utilization

- ❑ Grants for vegetation treatment projects that reduce wildfire hazards and utilize the biomass for green energy



Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund Forest Management Projects

Reforestation Services

- ❑ Grants to landowners to reforest lands damaged by wildfires and funding to procure seed for the State Seed Bank
- ❑ Tree planting in areas destroyed by wildfires and the subsequent tree growth results in removing CO₂ from the atmosphere and storing carbon in the trees



Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund Forest Management Projects

Forest Legacy Conservation Easements

- ❑ Funding for purchases of working forest conservation easements
- ❑ Avoids losses of forested properties threatened with conversion to non-forest uses such as subdivisions and vineyards
- ❑ Maintains forested landscapes to ensure increasing our carbon reserves

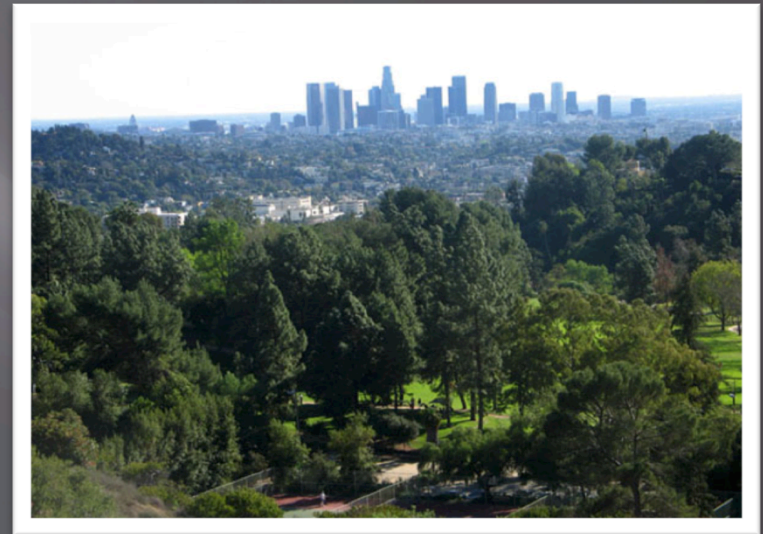


Photo:gualalariver.org

Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund Forest Management Grants

Urban and Community Forestry

- ❑ Grants for planting and maintenance of trees and other vegetation in urban areas
- ❑ CAL FIRE provides advice and technical assistance
- ❑ Sustainable urban forests help improve the quality of urban environments and provides co benefits such as improving public health
- ❑ Urban forests sequester carbon, provide avoided GHG emissions through the reduction of fossil energy (shade for homes, reducing needs for cooling), and reduce urban heat islands



Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund Forest Management Projects

Demonstration State Forests and Cooperative Wildland Research

- ❑ Funding for research to evaluate greenhouse gas reduction /carbon benefits of forestry practices



Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund Forest Management Projects

Programmatic Environmental Impact Reports (PTEIR)

- ❑ Grants to prepare environmental compliance documents that will facilitate vegetation treatments projects that reduce wildfire hazards and utilize the biomass for green energy.



CAL FIRE Strategies to adapt to Climate Changes

Sustainable forest biomass utilization

- ❑ Energy from sustainable forest management through small distributed power plants (SB 1122)
- ❑ Fuel hazard reduction with biomass utilization - Grant projects to reduce hazardous vegetation (fuel) that contributes to wildfires and stabilize carbon
- ❑ Sustainable biomass assessments - Analysis of environmentally sustainable forest biomass production (SB 1122)



CAL FIRE Strategies to adapt to Climate Change

SRA Fee Fire Prevention Grants and “FSTEPP”

(Fire Severity Treatment Education Planning and Prevention)

- ❑ Governor Brown approved an initiative in 2013-14 to work towards these goals
- ❑ Funding for a wide variety of projects: education, fire prevention training, fire prevention planning, vegetative hazard reduction, defensible space inspections, land use planning

SRA FEE GRANTS AND FSTEPP

Public Education/Information

- ☐ Increase awareness, knowledge and actions implemented by individuals and communities to reduce losses from wildland fires

Fuel Hazard Reduction/Veg management

- ☐ Prescribed fire, fire safe brush clearing, forest thinning

Defensible Space Inspections

- ☐ Fire safe clearing 100 ft. around homes

Land Use Planning

- ☐ General Plan Safety Elements reviews to support a community's adaptation and ability to respond to wildfires



CAL FIRE Strategies to adapt to Climate Changes

Forest Carbon Plan:

- ❑ Sets near term and long term planning targets to ensure increased net forest carbon storage
- ❑ State is forming an intergovernmental working group (Forest Climate Action Team)
 - ❑ Forest inventory (critical to determining whether forests are a carbon sink or emitter)
 - ❑ Co-benefits
 - ❑ State and federal public land issues
 - ❑ Policy
- ❑ Final Plan completion targeted by December 2016

Questions?