

Wildfire & Forest Health Team

Increasingly catastrophic and frequent wildfires are plaguing the American west, claiming lives, leveling communities, impairing commerce, harming the environment, and destroying critical infrastructure. In the Sacramento region more forest lands have burned in the last 20 years than in the previous 100 years. Polling in 2022 shows 3 in 5 American voters rate wildfire as a serious problem, and 4 in 5 support increased federal investment.

About half the area of Placer and El Dorado counties east of Sacramento is federal forest land. The purpose of this team is to advocate for federal attention on saving the Sacramento region from the wildfire crisis. Team priorities are organized into **three R's** as follows:

Resilience of our natural resource landscapes and communities. This can be achieved with management of federal forest land, investment in wood utilization, expanding prescribed fire, and investment firefighting water infrastructure in wildland-urban interfaces.

Responsiveness of our communities and firefighting forces to wildfire events. This requires grants to local firefighting agencies, whom the federal agencies rely upon, and adequate reimbursement of local expenses, such as air district monitoring and public safety response.

Recovery of federal lands, public infrastructure, and communities that have succumbed to the catastrophic effects of wildfire, including soil stabilization, re-planting, and roadway drainage improvements. There are multiple bills in the current Congress that support this cause.

See our team paper for more information or contact:

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