

# Bay Area Climate Change Impacts

## WILDFIRE

Warming temperatures combined with expansion of the wildland-urban interface are projected to increase fire risk in most of the Bay Area.<sup>1</sup>

**60%** of land in the Bay Area is within the Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI), where

**4 MILLION  
PEOPLE**

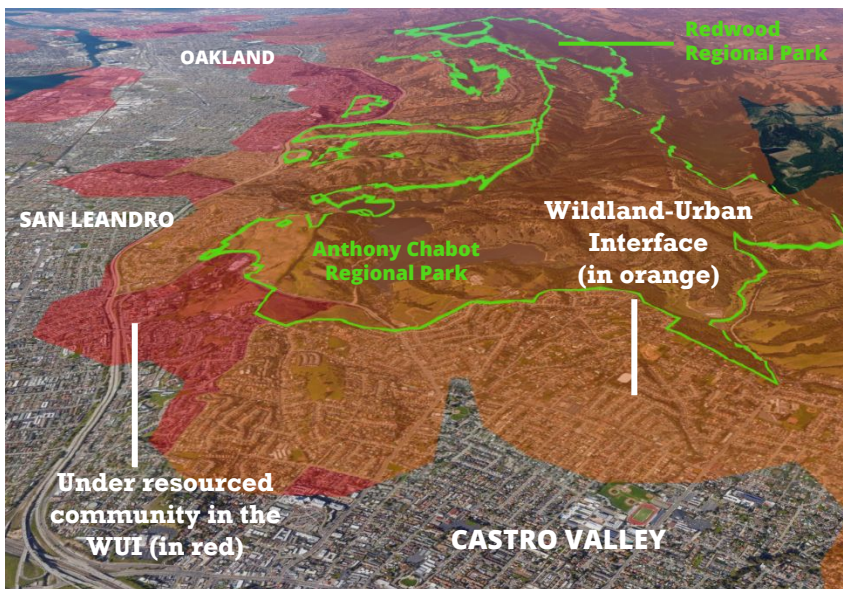
live and work, including

**1 MILLION  
PEOPLE** in

**under-resourced  
communities.**



Coffee Park, Santa Rosa (Carolyn Cole)



Wildland-Urban Interface in Castro Valley, San Leandro, and Oakland vicinity.

**The Bay Area's 40** open space districts, resource conservation districts, park departments, land trusts, and water districts actively manage

**28%** of the Wildland-Urban Interface.

These agencies and organizations also work with the private landowners who manage another

**54%** of the WUI.

<sup>1</sup>Ackerly, David, Andrew Jones, Mark Stacey, Bruce Riordan. (University of California, Berkeley). 2018. *San Francisco Bay Area Summary Report*. California's Fourth Climate Change Assessment.

<sup>2</sup>Top 20 Most Destructive California Wildfires CAL FIRE 8/2019.

**Reducing Risk Through Land Management & Conservation**

Tree thinning, fuel breaks, prescribed burning, vegetation management, and open space conservation **reduce fire risk to people.**

**MANAGING FIRE FUELS IN THE WUI**

- Targeted tree thinning for forest health and resiliency
- Construction and maintenance of fuel breaks
- Prescribed burning
- Grassland grazing
- Control/removal of fire-prone non-native plants using an Integrated Pest Management approach

**COMMUNITY-FOCUSED WILDFIRE RESPONSE**

- Grant funding
- Local agency
- Funds fire management actions by tribal restoration crews, certified local corps, work development programs, fire safe councils, etc.
- Builds capacity among agencies, orgs, and private landowners
- Fosters cross-jurisdictional partnerships
- Incentivizes local investment

**LAND USE PLANNING**

- Open space and trails provide battle lines for fire containment and opportunities for backfires
- Fire-safe building standards
- Home hardening
- Near-building vegetation management

**TOGETHER BAY AREA**  
www.TogetherBayArea.org

**6 of the top 20<sup>2</sup>**

most destructive fires in California history have occurred in the Bay Area

| RANK | FIRE NAME | DATE           | COUNTY              | ACRES  | STRUCTURES | DEATHS |
|------|-----------|----------------|---------------------|--------|------------|--------|
| 2    | TUBBS     | October 2017   | Napa & Sonoma       | 36,807 | 5,636      | 22     |
| 3    | TUNNEL    | October 1991   | Alameda             | 1,600  | 2,900      | 25     |
| 5    | VALLEY    | September 2015 | Lake, Napa & Sonoma | 76,067 | 1,955      | 4      |
| 9    | NUNS      | October 2017   | Sonoma              | 54,382 | 1,355      | 3      |
| 14   | ATLAS     | October 2017   | Napa & Solano       | 51,624 | 783        | 6      |
| 18   | BERKELEY  | September 1923 | Alameda             | 130    | 584        | 0      |