



2013 Board of Forestry Annual Meeting

Brendan “Rip” Ripley
Vegetation Management Planner
Pre-Fire Engineer

Ventura County Fire Department



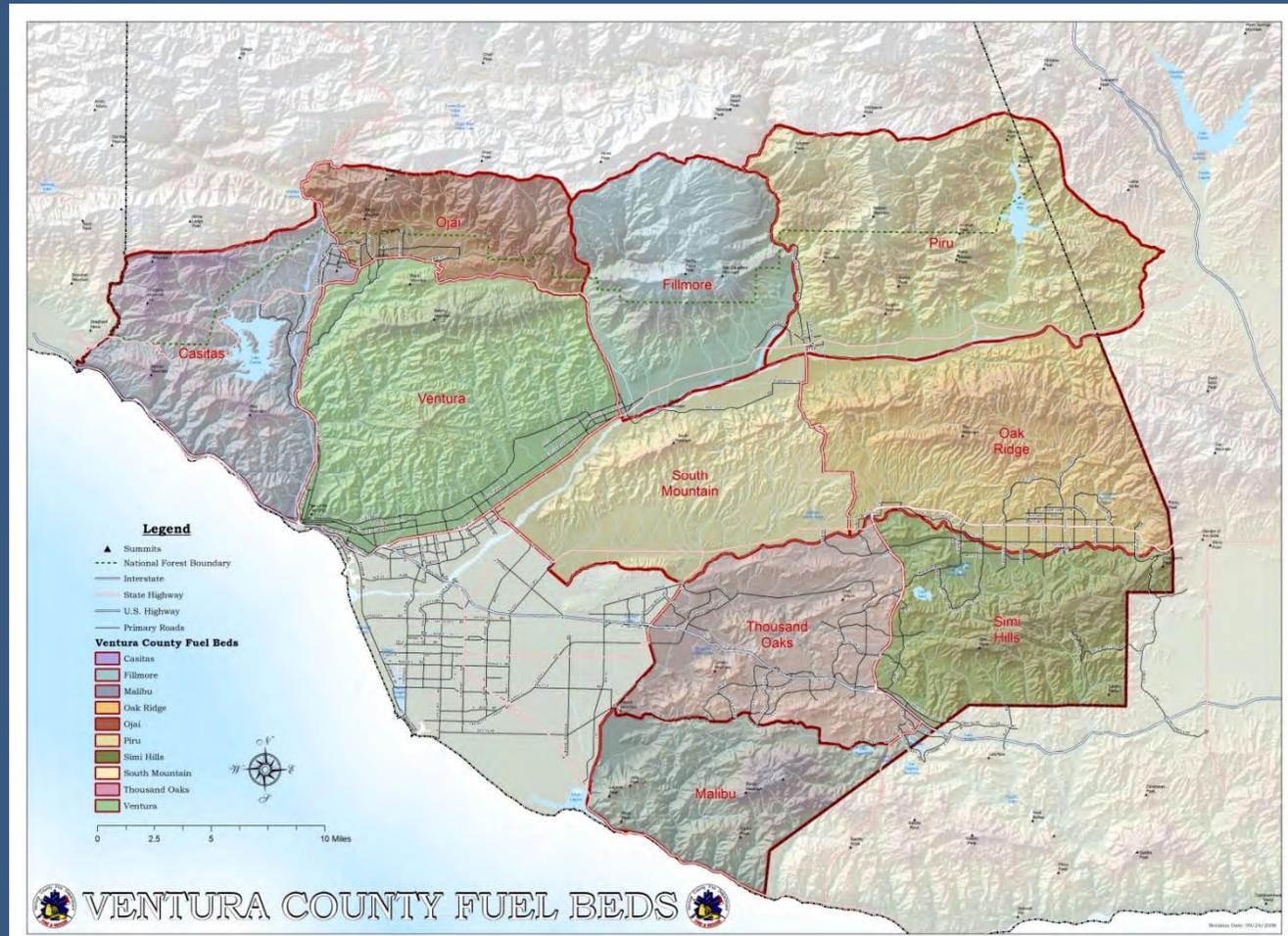
Ventura County

- 1,198,720 acres (1,873 sq. mi.)
- 353,161 SRA acres (552 sq. mi.)
- 550,400 acres Los Padres NF (860 sq. mi.) 46%
- 14 communities at risk
- Population 831,771 (2011)





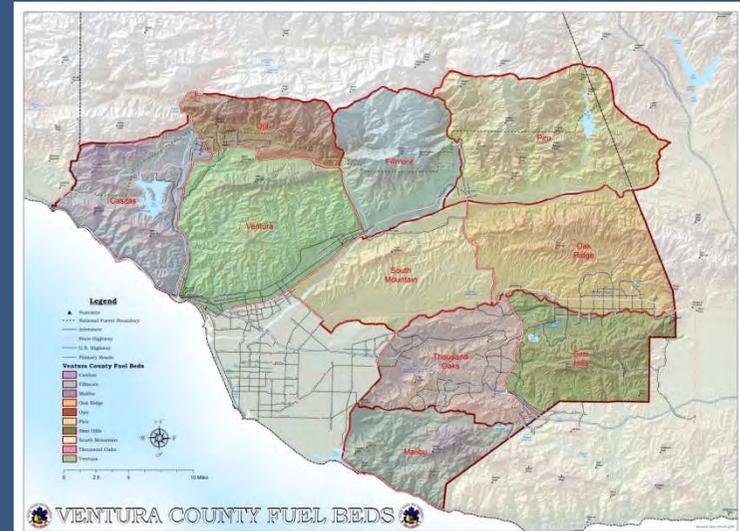
Ventura County Fuel beds





Ventura County Fuel beds

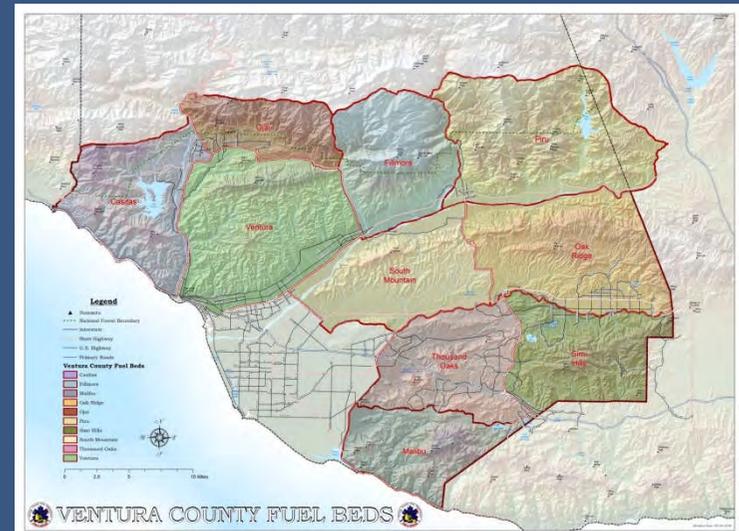
- Documentation
Fire History
Vegetation Management





Ventura County Fuel beds

- Emergency Contacts

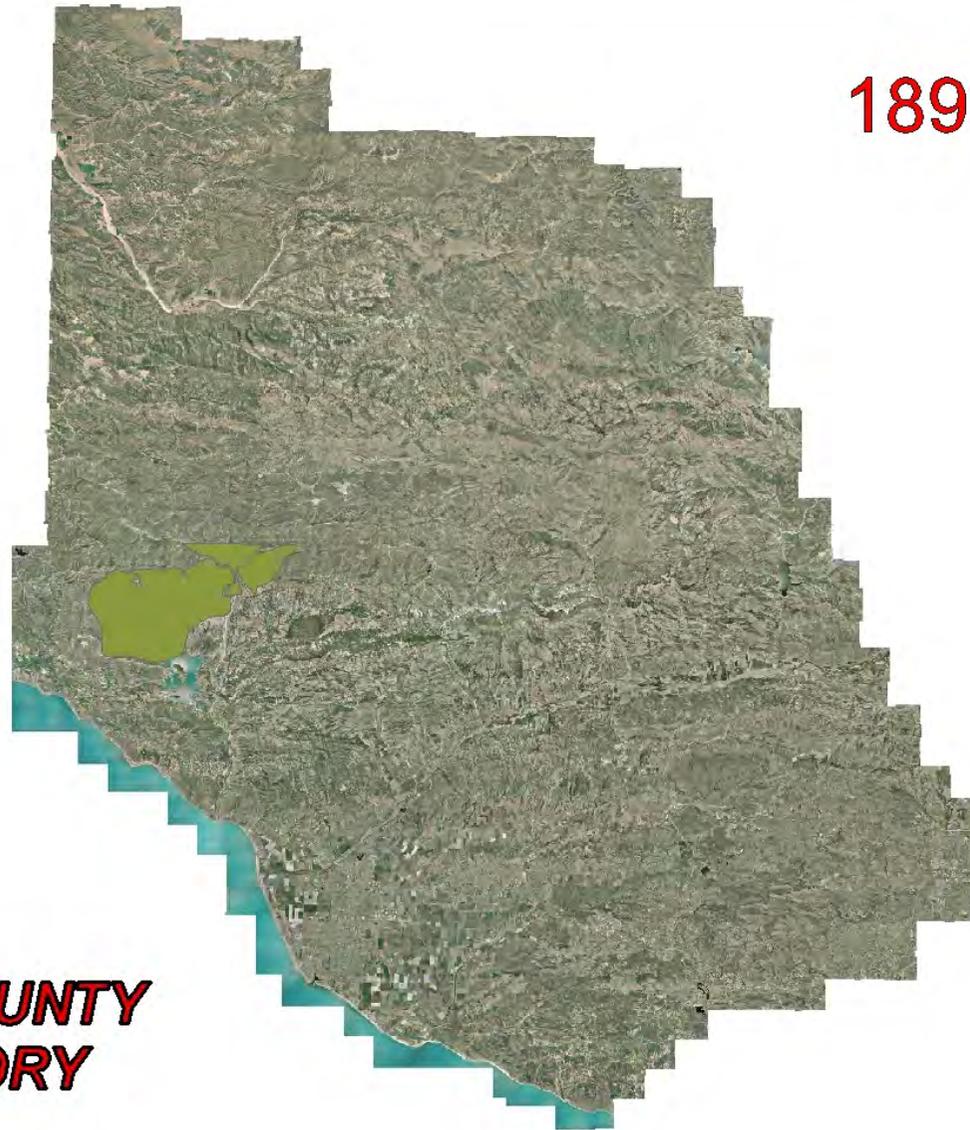


VCCA Emergency Contact Program

FIRE HISTORY



1890



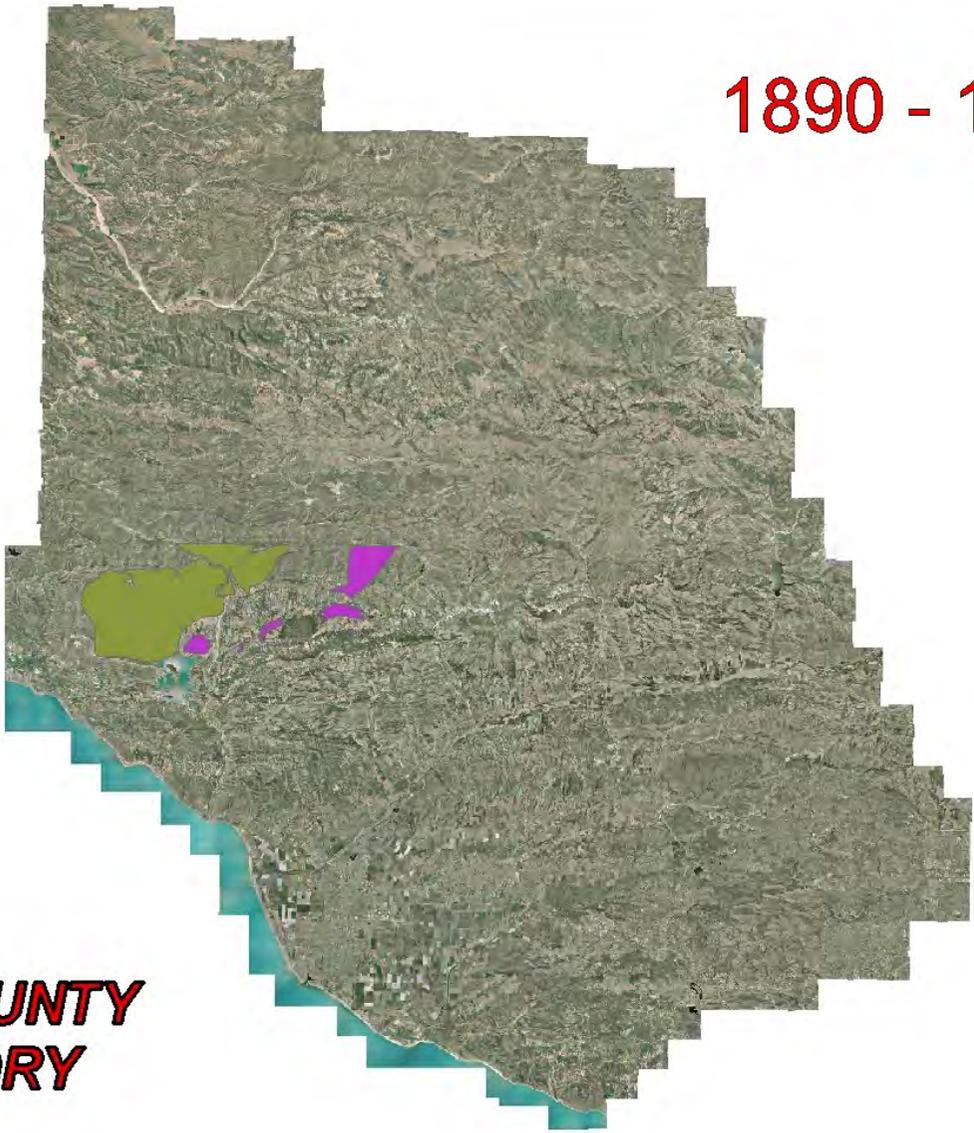
LEGEND	
DECADE	
	1890



VENTURA COUNTY FIRE HISTORY



1890 - 1900



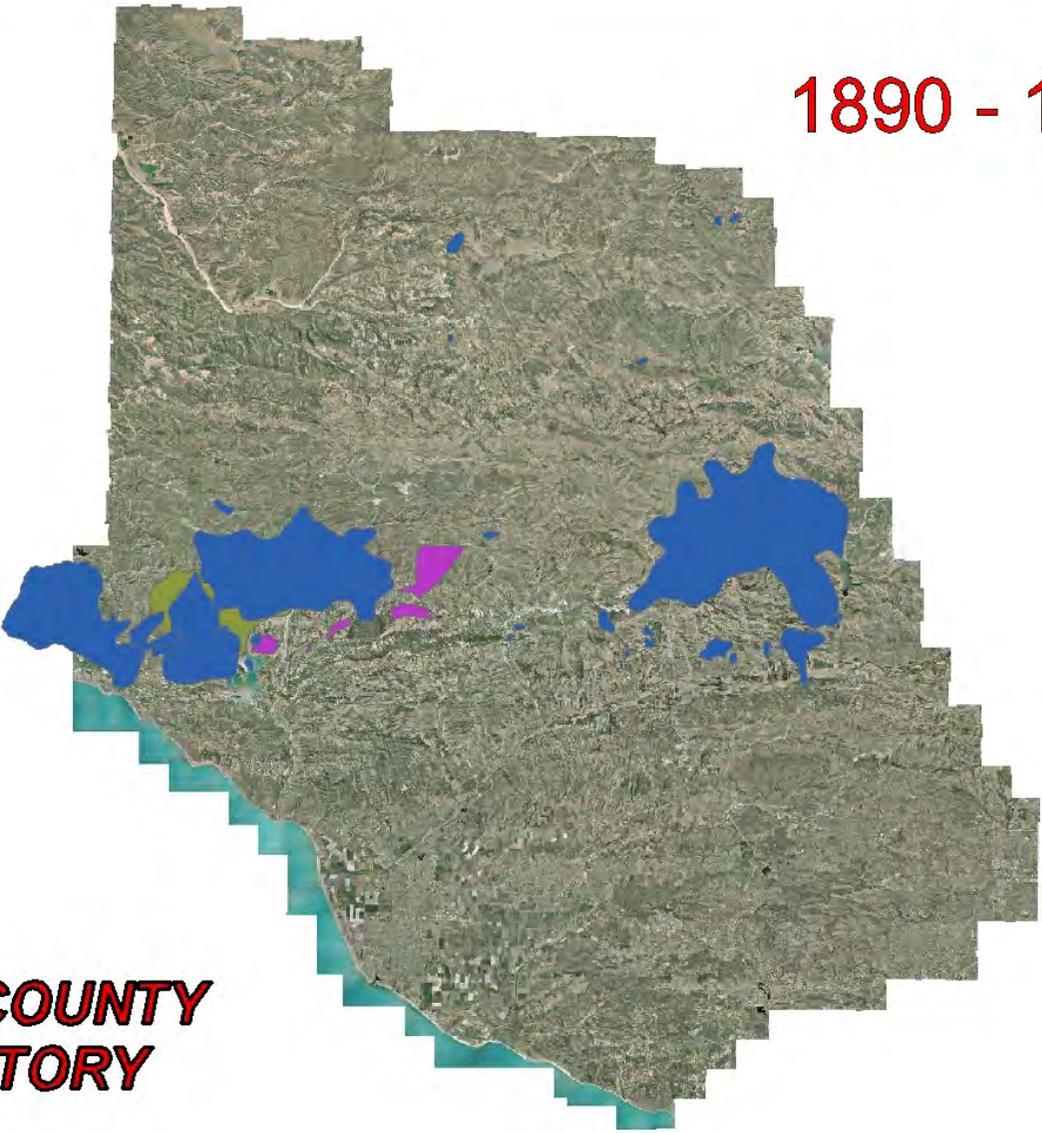
LEGEND	
DECADE	
Green	1890
Purple	1900



**VENTURA COUNTY
FIRE HISTORY**



1890 - 1910



LEGEND	
DECADE	
Green	1890
Purple	1900
Blue	1910



**VENTURA COUNTY
FIRE HISTORY**

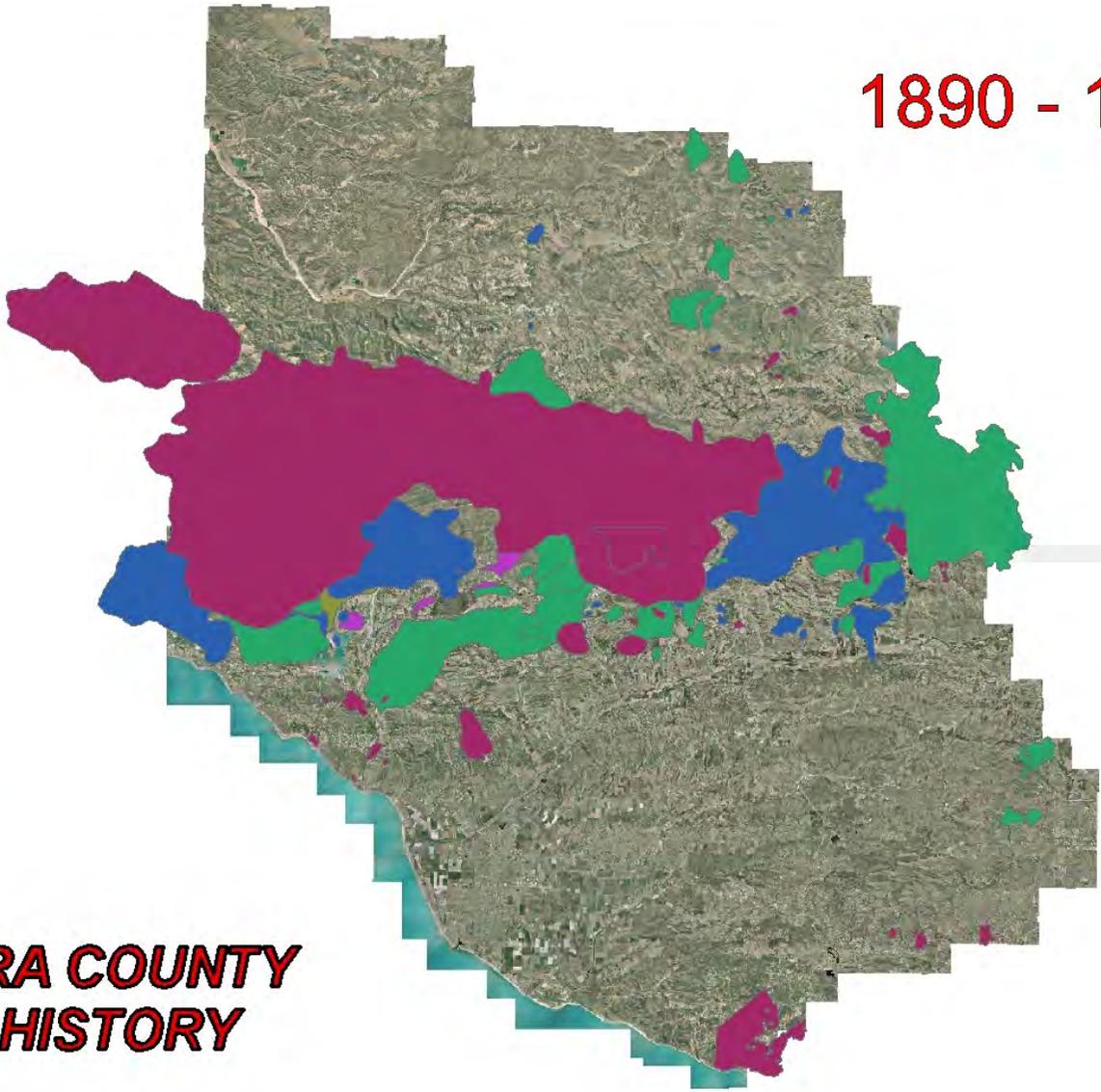


1890 - 1930

LEGEND	
DECADE	
1890	1900
1910	1920
1930	



VENTURA COUNTY FIRE HISTORY



1890 - 1940

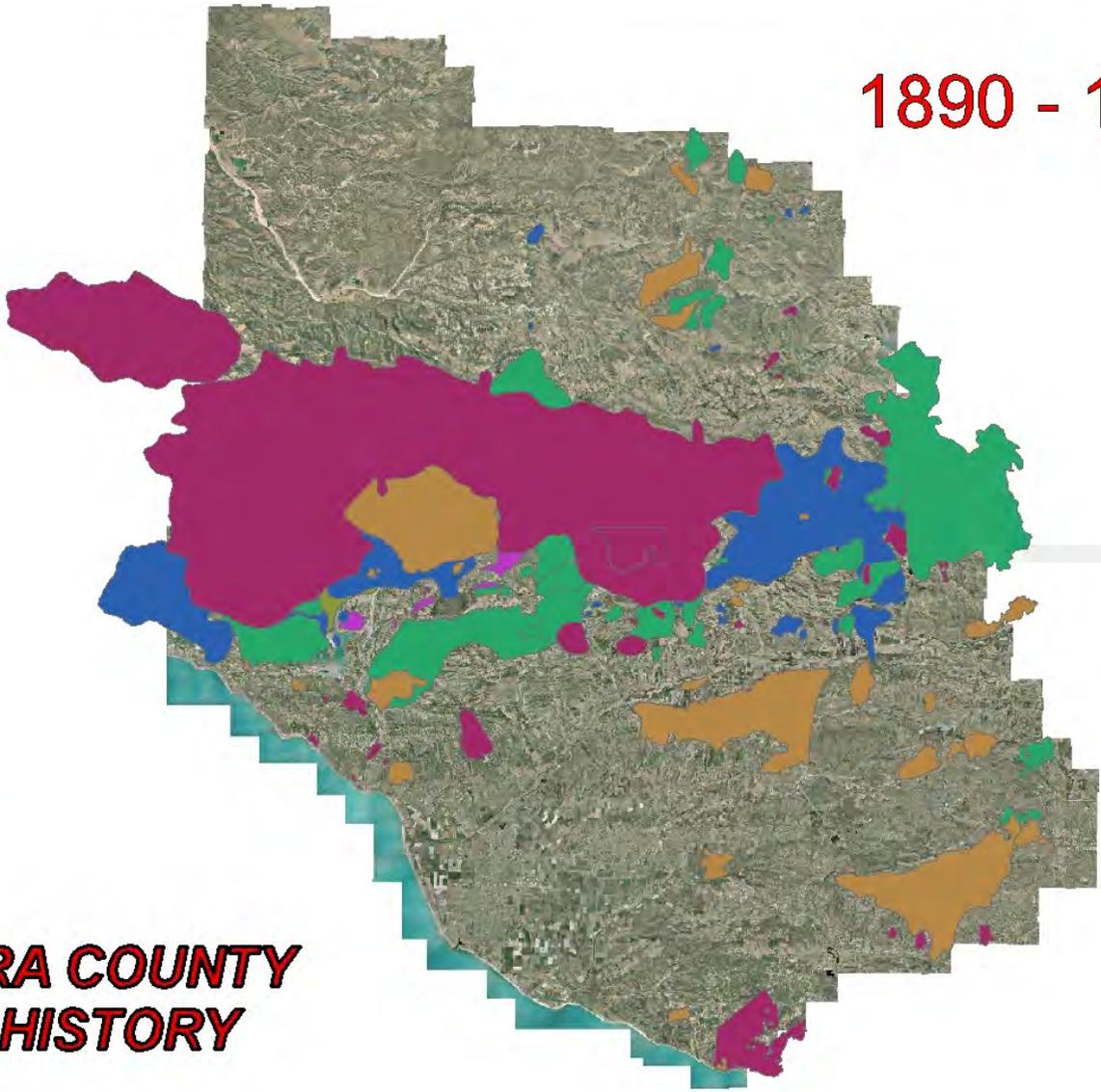
LEGEND

DECADE

1890
1900
1910
1920
1930
1940



**VENTURA COUNTY
FIRE HISTORY**



1890 - 1950

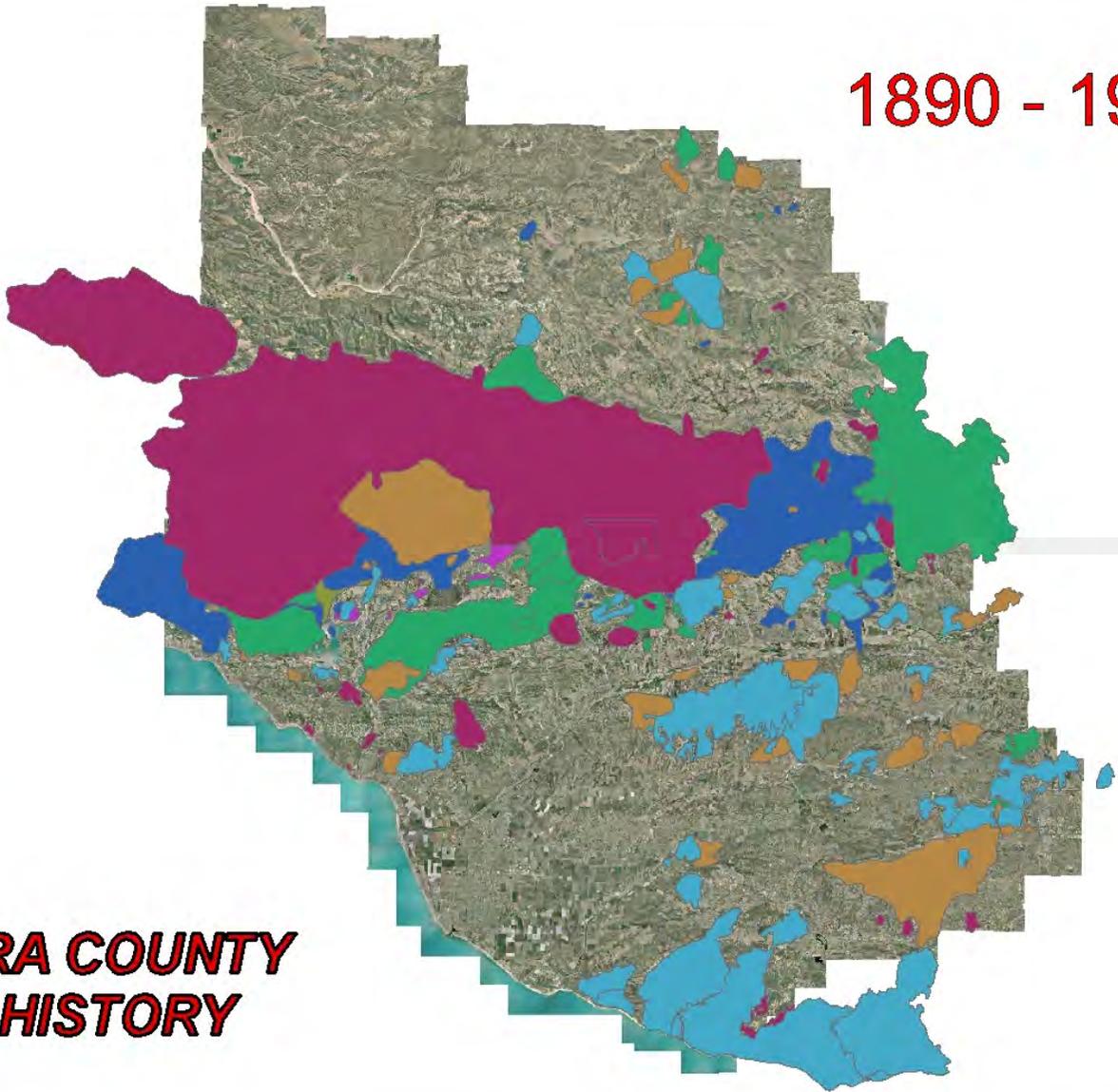
LEGEND

DECADE

1890
1900
1910
1920
1930
1940
1950



**VENTURA COUNTY
FIRE HISTORY**

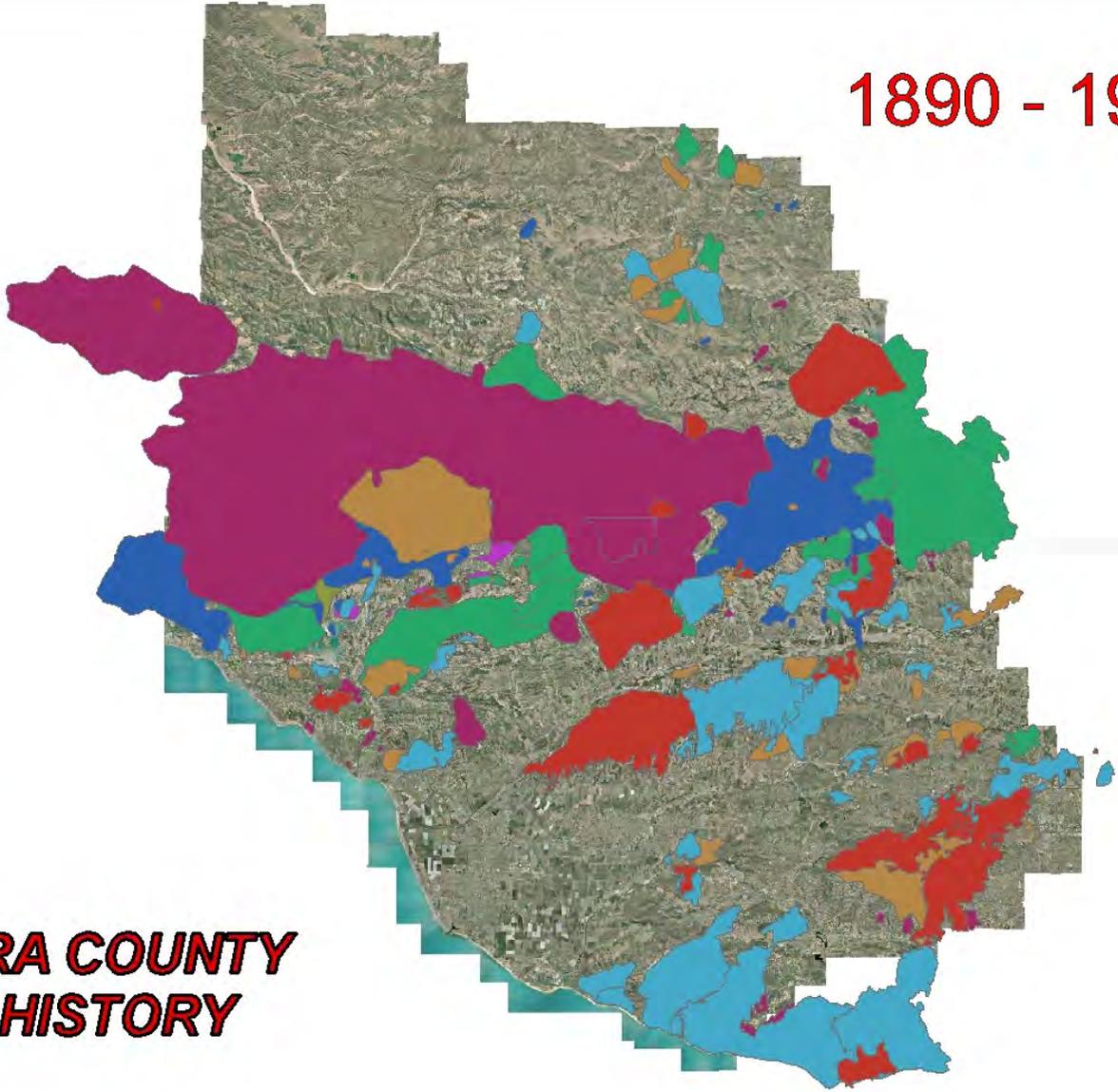


1890 - 1960

LEGEND	
DECADE	
1890	1900
1910	1920
1930	1940
1950	1960



VENTURA COUNTY FIRE HISTORY



1890 - 1970

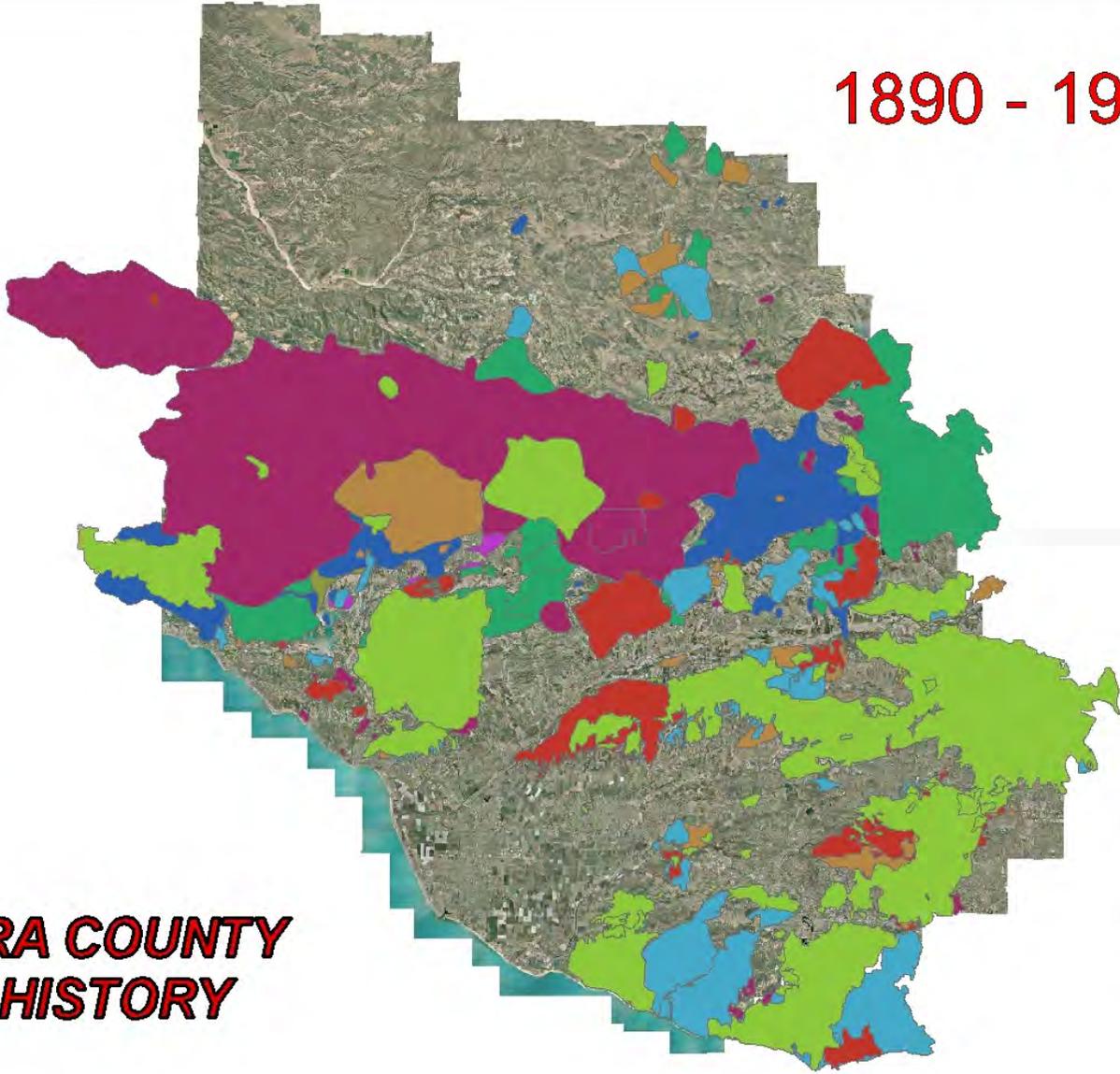
LEGEND

DECADE

1890
1900
1910
1920
1930
1940
1950
1960
1970



**VENTURA COUNTY
FIRE HISTORY**



1890 - 1980

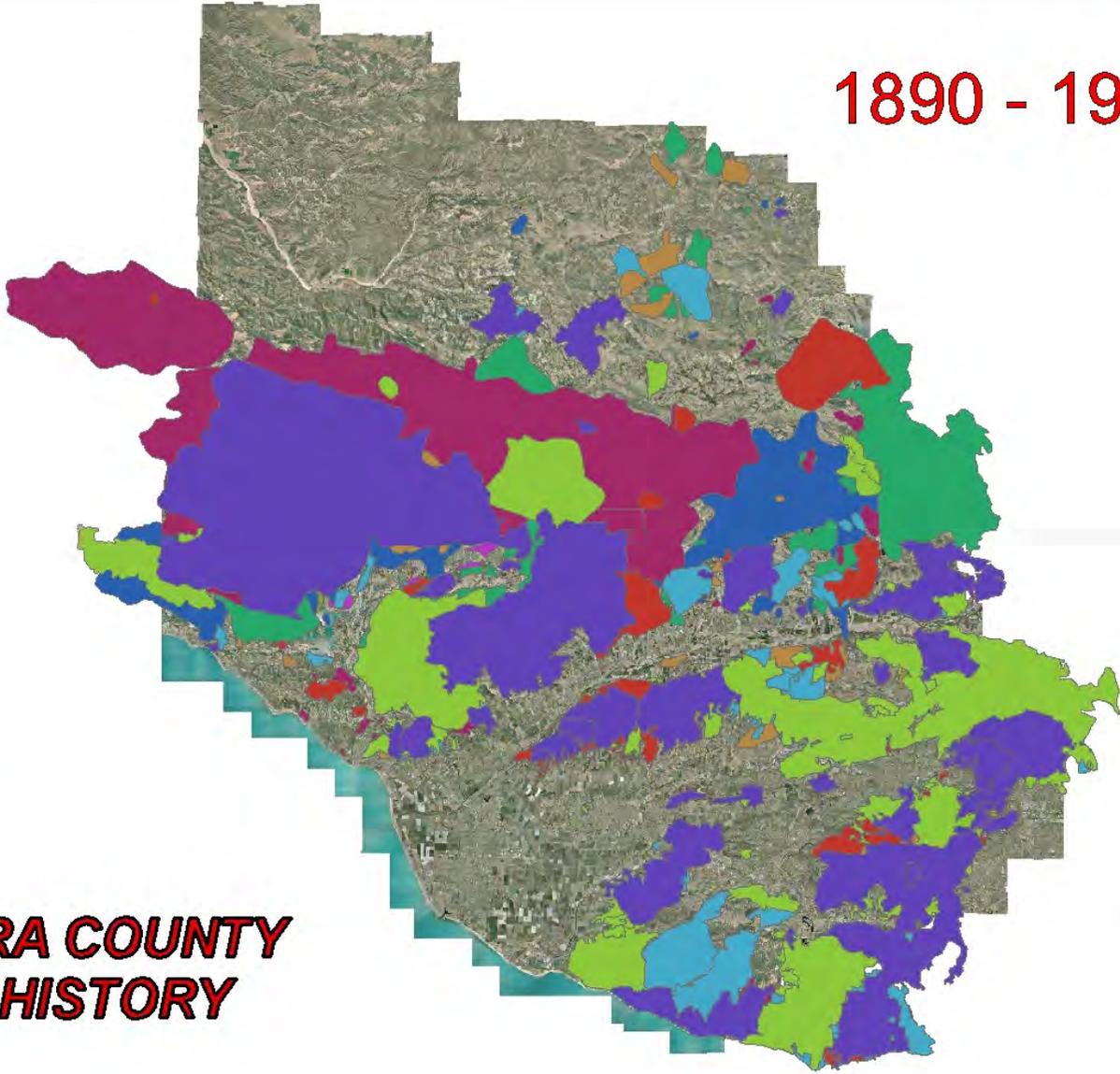
LEGEND

DECADE

1890
1900
1910
1920
1930
1940
1950
1960
1970
1980



**VENTURA COUNTY
FIRE HISTORY**

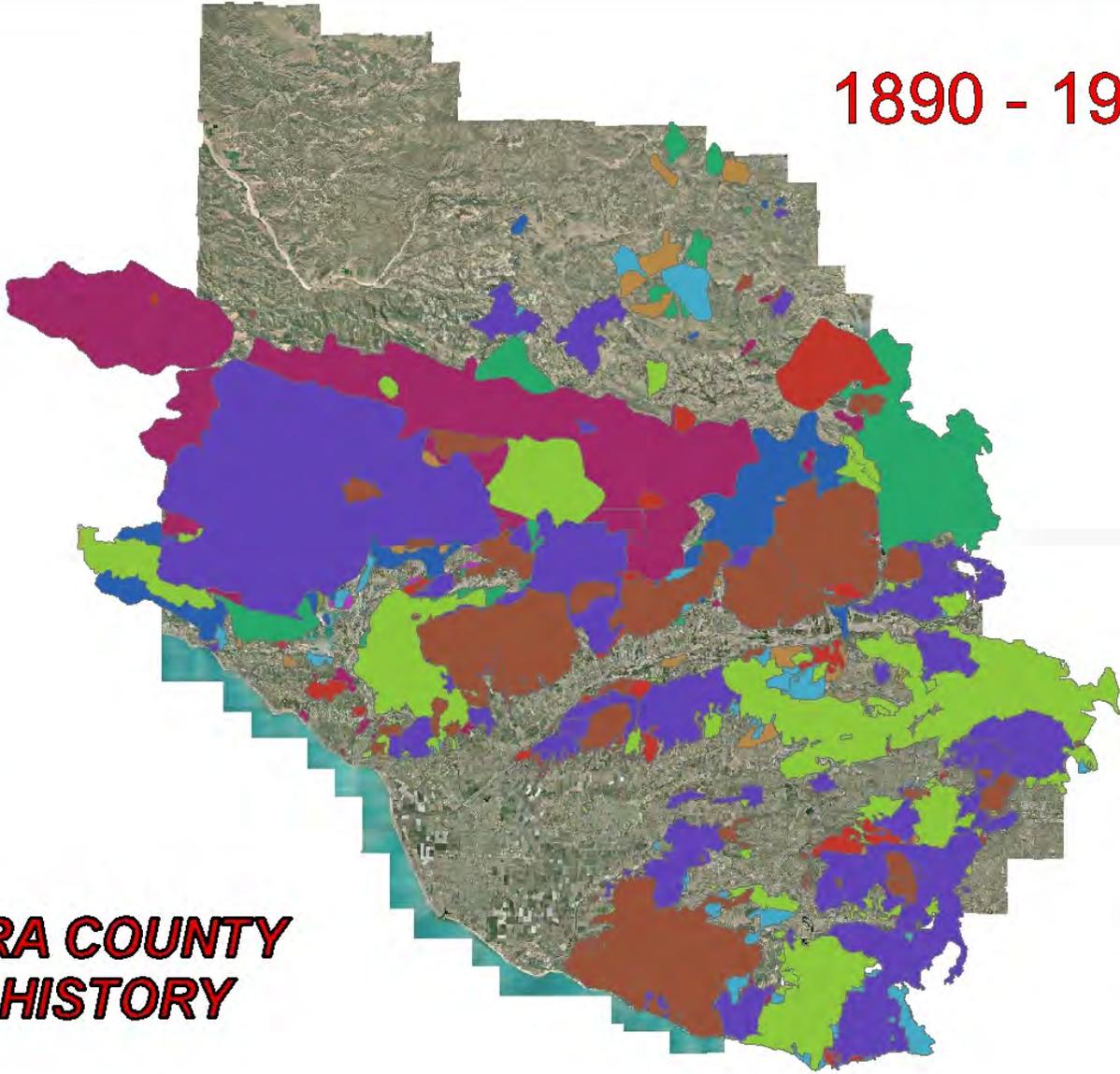


1890 - 1990

LEGEND	
DECADE	
1890	1900
1910	1920
1930	1940
1950	1960
1970	1980
1990	



**VENTURA COUNTY
FIRE HISTORY**



1890 - 2000

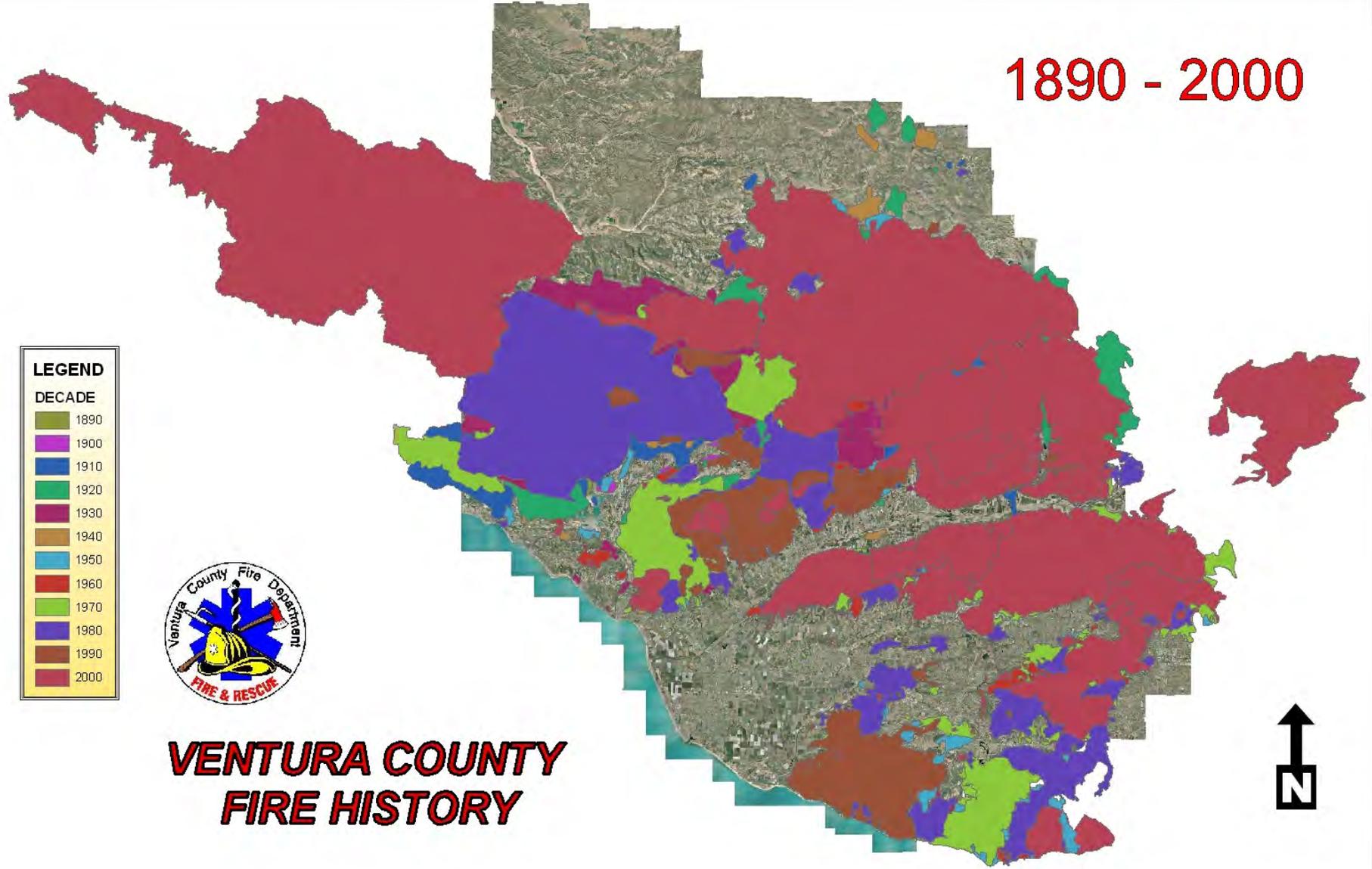
LEGEND

DECADE

1890
1900
1910
1920
1930
1940
1950
1960
1970
1980
1990
2000



**VENTURA COUNTY
FIRE HISTORY**



1890 - 2010

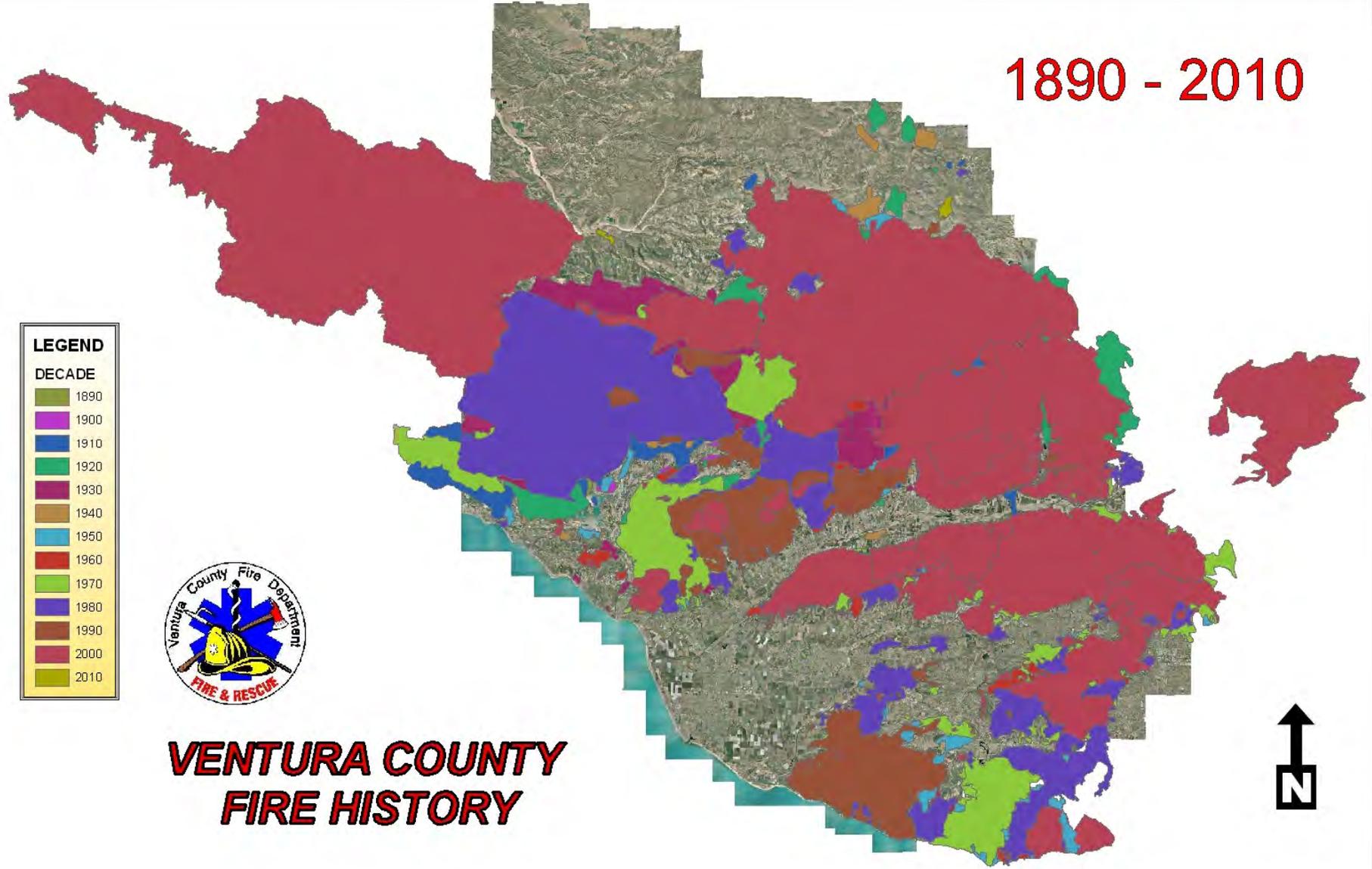
LEGEND

DECADE

1890
1900
1910
1920
1930
1940
1950
1960
1970
1980
1990
2000
2010



**VENTURA COUNTY
FIRE HISTORY**



1890 - 2013

LEGEND

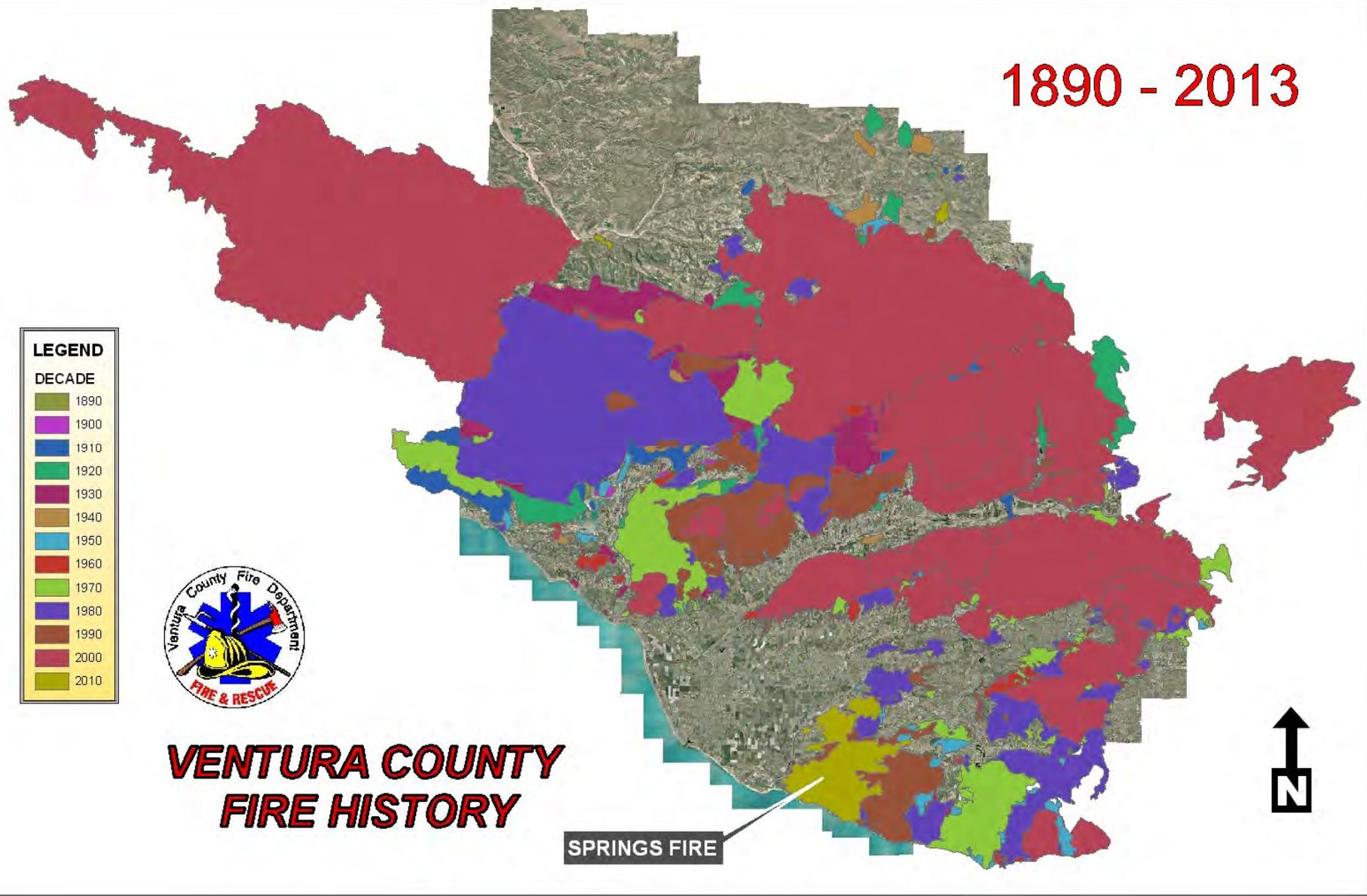
DECADE

1890
1900
1910
1920
1930
1940
1950
1960
1970
1980
1990
2000
2010



**VENTURA COUNTY
FIRE HISTORY**

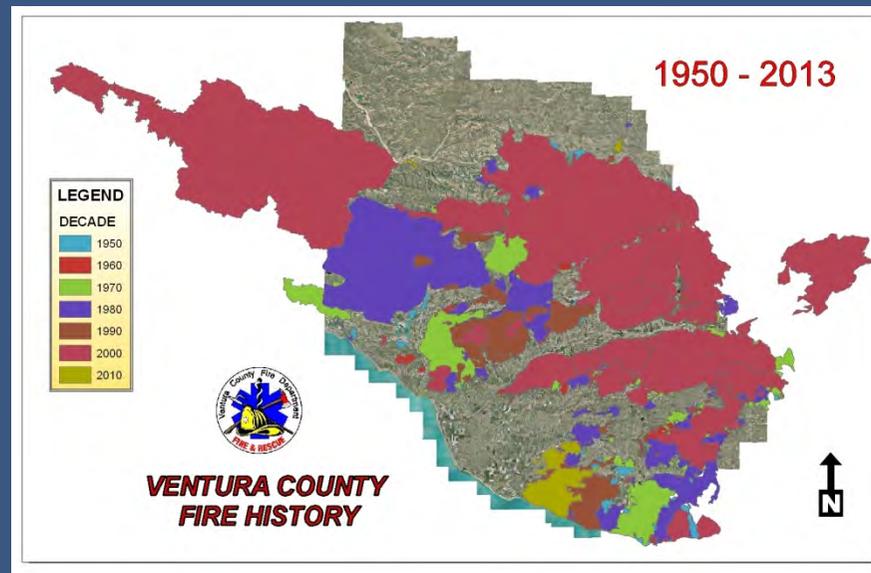
SPRINGS FIRE





Ventura County Total Acreage Burned from 1950 – 2013

1,993,626 Acres





**It's not a matter of if
but when!!!**



VENTURA COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

*Unit Strategic Fire Plan
Ventura County Fire Protection
District*



UNIT FIRE PLAN

supporting the
California Fire Plan



“The Unit Fire Plan places emphasis on what needs to be done long before a fire starts”

*Unit Strategic Fire Plan
Ventura County Fire Protection
District*





The Unit Fire Plan looks to reduce:

*Unit Strategic Fire Plan
Ventura County Fire Protection
District*



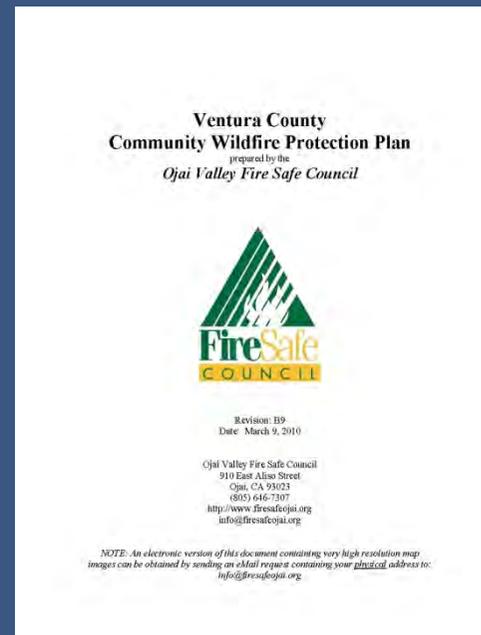
- Firefighting costs
- Property loss
- Increase Firefighter Safety
- Contribute to ecosystem health



Unit Fire Plan History

- 2012 plan fulfilled utilizing the County wide Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)

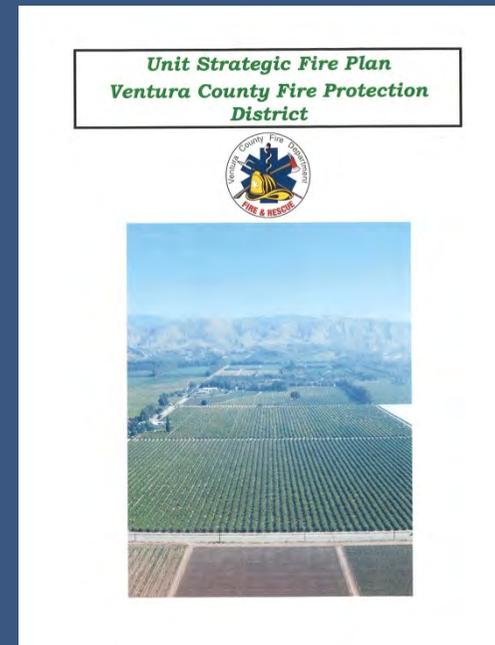
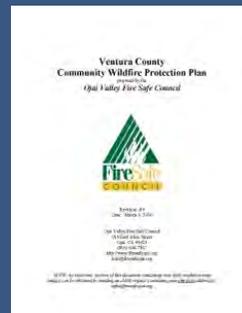
CWPP completed by the Ojai Valley Fire Safe Council in collaboration with the Ventura County Fire Dept. in 2010.





Unit Fire Plan History

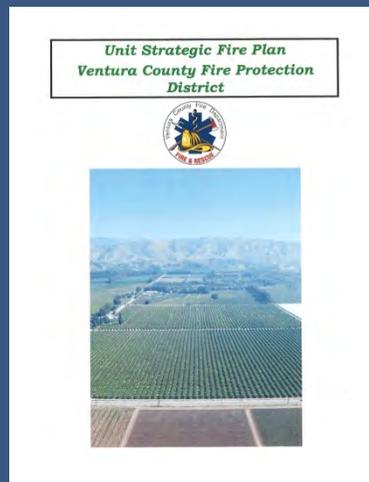
- 2013 plan redesigned and consolidated
Replaced the County Wide CWPP & 5 year
wildland plan





Implementing the Unit Fire Plan

- Collaboration is the key component.....



Over 40 Representatives from
Communities, Agencies, land
managers and Fire Safe Councils
were involved in the plan
development



Implementing the
Unit Fire Plan

Community Involvement

- **Fire Safe Councils:**

Ojai FSC

Central Ventura County FSC

Ventu Park FSC

Mt. Pinos Communities FSC





Implementing the
Unit Fire Plan

Community Involvement

- Fire Safe Councils accomplishments:



Shaded Fuel Breaks:



BEFORE



AFTER

Charter School SFB



Implementing the Unit Fire Plan Community Involvement

- Fire Safe Councils accomplishments:



Ag Pass

Ag Worker ID Program

In partnership with the Farm Bureau of Ventura County, the Central Ventura County Fire Safe Council is pleased to announce updates to the Ventura County Agricultural Employee ID Card Program.

- **New Card Design Includes Photo**
- **Available Free of Charge to Farmers, Ranchers, Nursery Owners and Their Employees**
- **Three Easy Ways to Sign Up:**
 - **Online Request form at cvcfiresafe.org**
 - **Monthly Enrollment Sessions at Local Fire Stations**
 - **Designated Days at Farm Bureau Office (starting in 2013)**

The current blue card will be phased out and replaced over 24 months beginning November, 2012.

Ventura County Agriculture Employee ID

Front

Back

NEW & IMPROVED!

Ventura County Agriculture Employee ID

Card No. 0CR002

M	1ft6in	52lb	gray	brown
Sex	Height	Weight	Hair	Eyes
	12/04/09			
	DOB		Exp. Date	

At the discretion of a public safety member or their designee this card when accompanied by valid photo identification may be used to gain needed and legitimate access to restricted areas during emergency road closures. Card access is granted in liaison of the sole risk and responsibility of the card holder and issuing company.

Central Ventura County Fire Safe Council www.cvcfiresafe.org

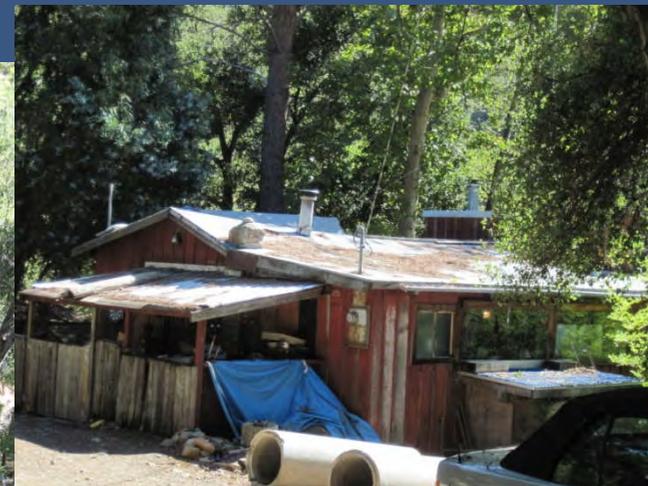


Implementing the
Unit Fire Plan

Community Involvement

- Fire Safe Councils accomplishments:

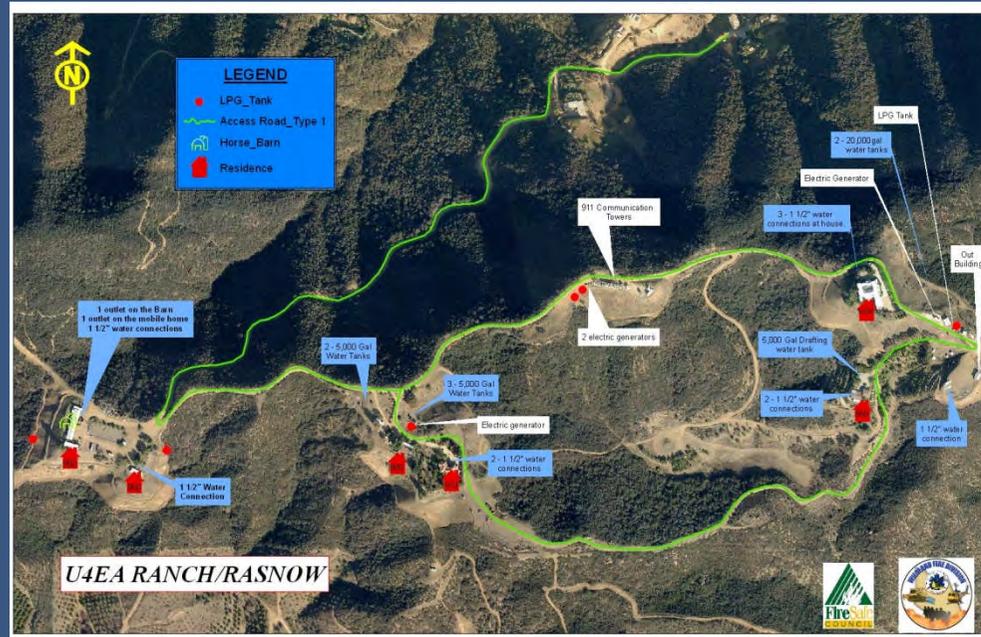
Matilija Canyon Home Hardening





Implementing the Unit Fire Plan Community Involvement

- Fire Safe Councils accomplishments
Ranch Plans

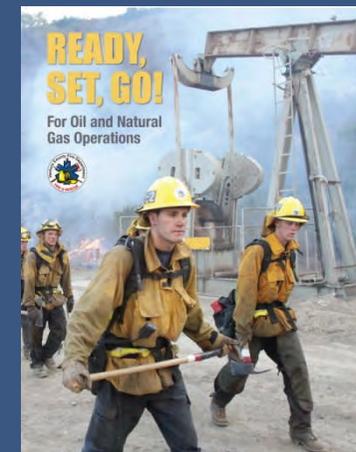
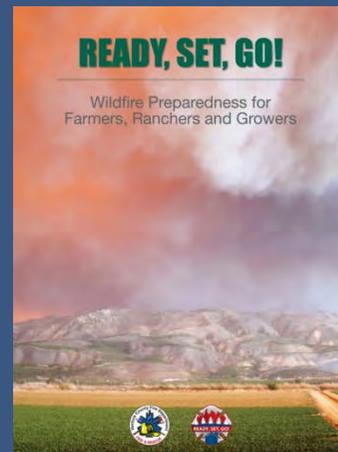
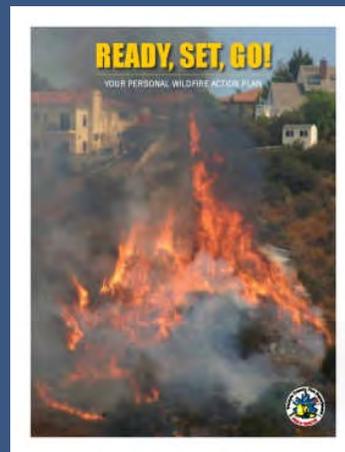




Implementing the Unit Fire Plan Community Involvement

- Fire Safe Councils accomplishments:

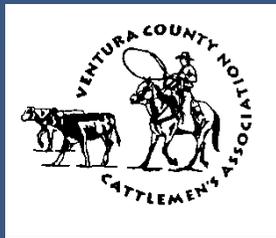
Wildland Fire Expo (Ready Set Go)





Implementing the Unit Fire Plan

- Local groups:



Ventura County Cattleman Assoc.

The Crew of Ojai

Ventura County RCD

Local Farmers

Land Owners





Implementing the Unit Fire Plan

- Local group accomplishments:
- VCCA grazing practices throughout the county





Implementing the Unit Fire Plan

- Local group accomplishments:
Residential fire mitigation for seniors

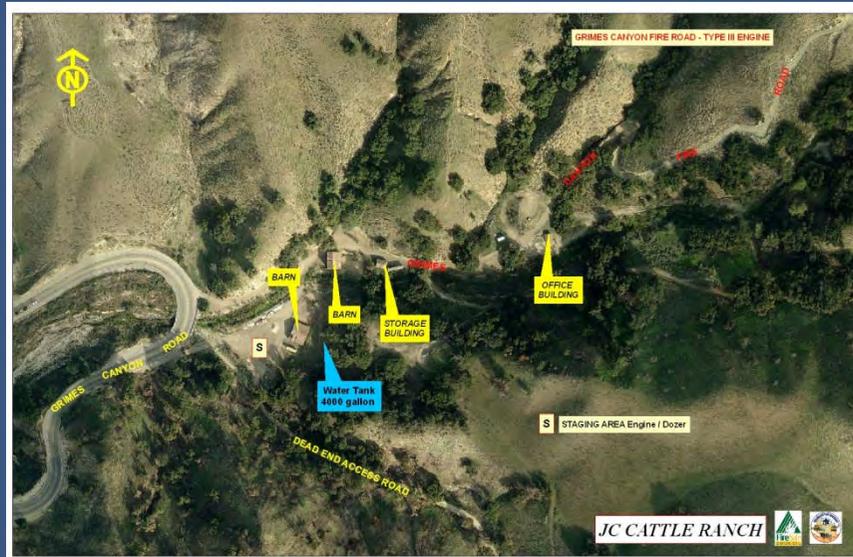




Implementing the Unit Fire Plan

- Local group accomplishments:

Grant assistance: RCD & Taylor Ranch







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Ventura County Agriculture Employee ID

Front

Ventura County Agricultural Employee ID

Card No. 120402

Jimmy Blue

10455 Stockton Rd

Moorpark

Quail Canyon Ranch

Back

As the beneficiary of a public safety program in Ventura County, you are required to provide a valid photo and signature to the Ventura County Fire Safe Council. Your photo and signature must be taken at a designated enrollment session. Your photo and signature must be taken at a designated enrollment session. All photos must be taken at a designated enrollment session.

M	18500	120402	120415	120415
Sex	Height	Weight	Eye	Exp. Date
M	5'00"	150	Blue	12/31/12

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Implementing the Unit Fire Plan

- Local group accomplishments:

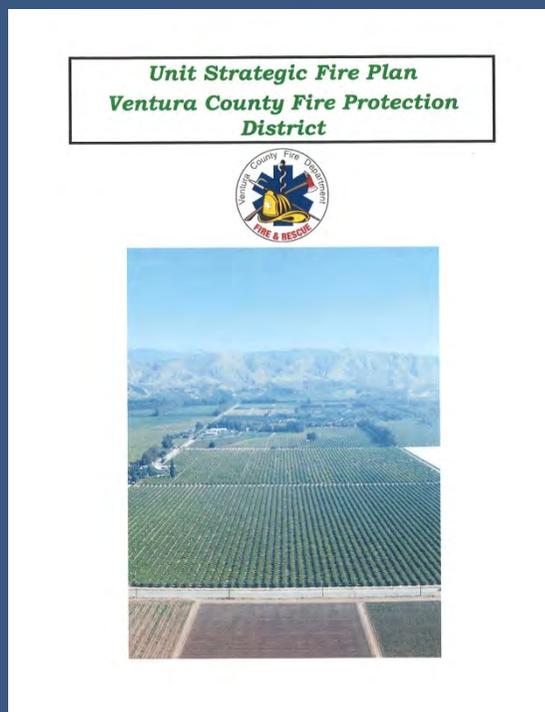
Temporary Refuge Area (TRA)





Implementing the Unit Fire Plan

Ventura County Fire Protection District



Mission Statement

The Ventura County Fire Department anticipates and responds to the dynamic public safety needs of a diverse community.



Implementing the Unit Fire Plan

Recognizing the effects of wildfire:

Air Quality

Rangeland

Agricultural Land

Recreation Land

Structures

Water and Watershed

Wildlife

Cultural, Historic, and Scenic Resources



Implementing the Unit Fire Plan

Recognizing the effects of wildfire:

Air Quality

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Agricultural Land

Recreation Land

Structures

Water and Watershed

Wildlife

Cultural, Historic, and Scenic Resources



Implementing the Unit Fire Plan

Wildland Urban Interface (WUI)

Impacts on two fronts:

Structures



Agricultural





Implementing the Unit Fire Plan

STRUCTURES

Wildland Urban Interface (WUI)

Fire Hazard Reduction Program (FHRP)

100' Defensible space:

Reduces Firefighting Costs

Reduces property loss

Increases Firefighter Safety



Implementing the Unit Fire Plan

STRUCTURES

Wildland Urban Interface (WUI)

Fire Hazard Reduction Program (FHRP)

2013: 15,139 Primary Notices mailed

12,000 Secondary Notices

190 parcels referred to FHRP

29 Parcels cut



Implementing the Unit Fire Plan

STRUCTURES

Wildland Urban Interface (WUI)

The ember zone:

“Home Hardening”



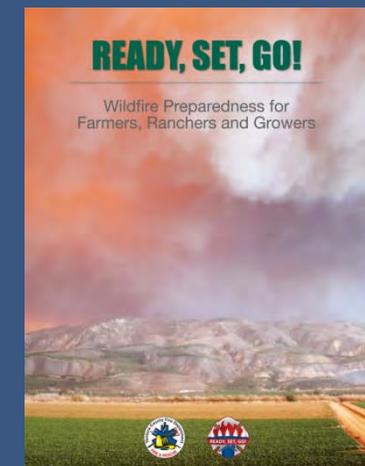
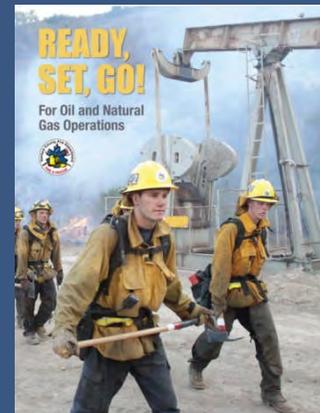
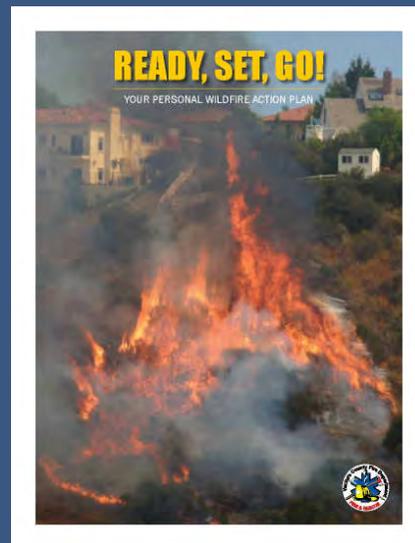


Implementing the Unit Fire Plan

STRUCTURES

Wildland Urban Interface (WUI)

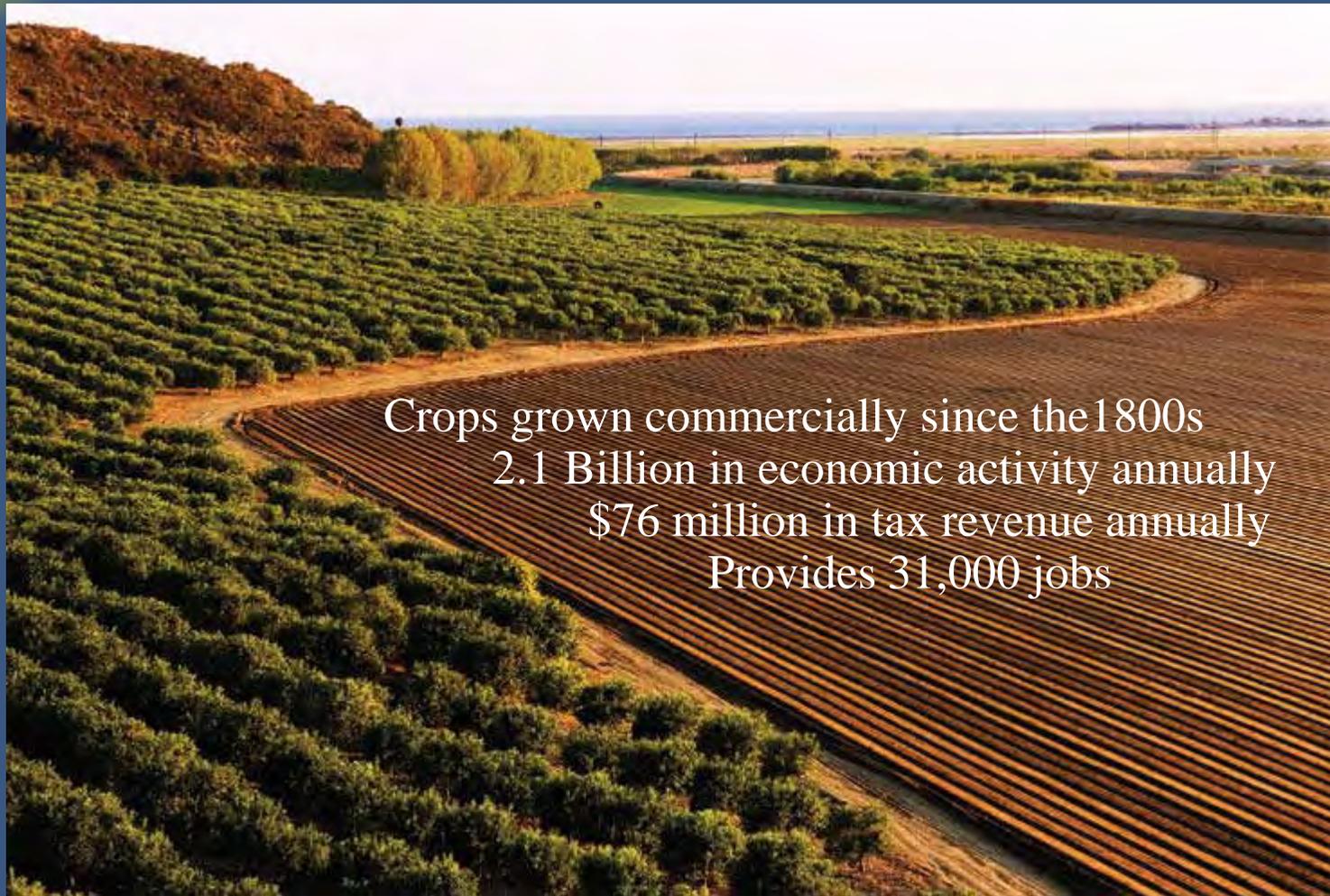
Education:





Implementing the Unit Fire Plan

Agriculture



Crops grown commercially since the 1800s
2.1 Billion in economic activity annually
\$76 million in tax revenue annually
Provides 31,000 jobs



Implementing the Unit Fire Plan

Agriculture

Wildland Urban Interface (WUI)





Implementing the Unit Fire Plan





Implementing the Unit Fire Plan Agriculture

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Ventura County Agriculture Employee ID

Front

Back

As the beneficiary of a public safety service, it is our obligation to help ensure that our members and employees have the most up-to-date and accurate information available to them. This is why we have updated our ID card program. Your information will be updated and your ID card will be replaced. Thank you for your support of our public safety services.

Ventura County Agriculture Employee ID

Card No. 1234567

Jimmy Blue

10455 Stockton Rd

Moorpark

Qual Canyon Ranch

M	TRIN	SSN	GRAY	ROWN
Sex	Height	Weight	Eye	Hair
M	509	1204567	Blue	Brown

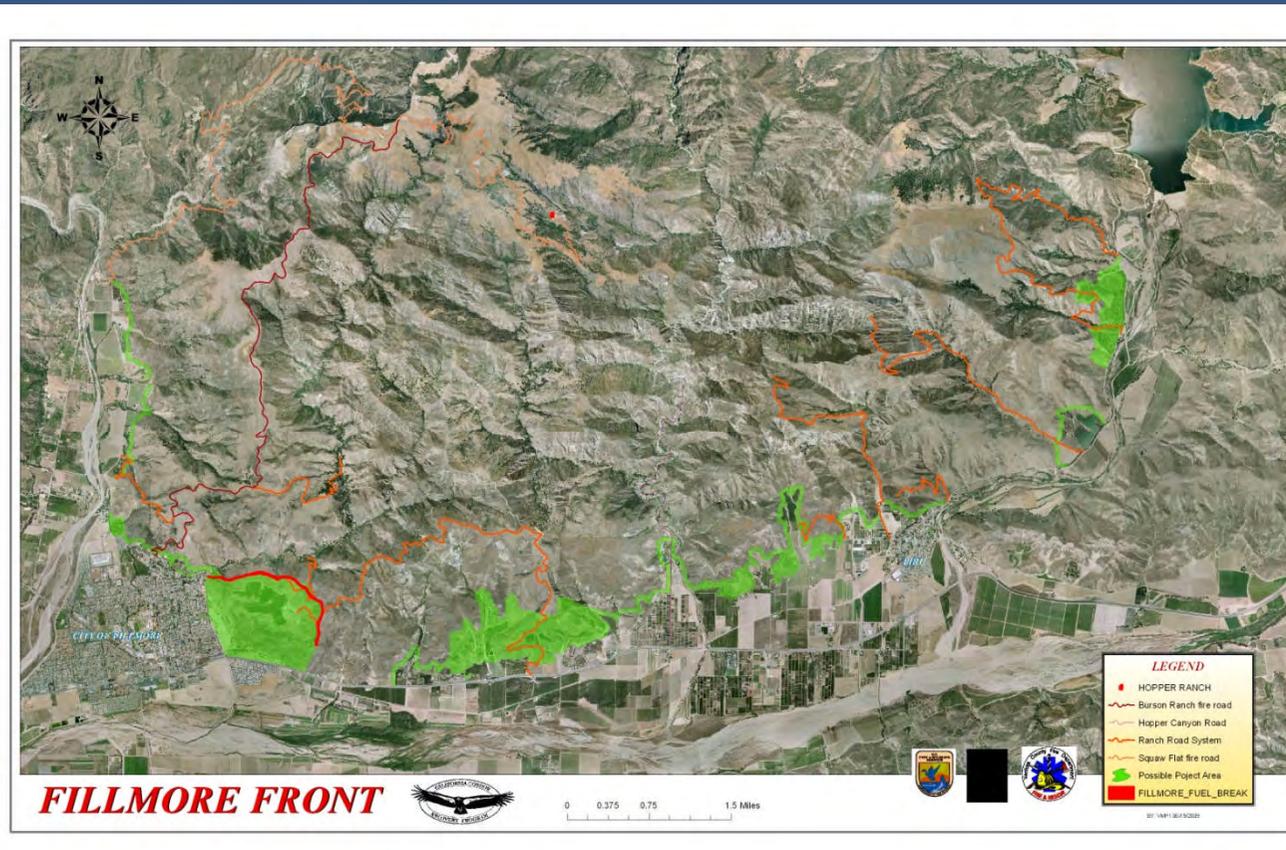
At the discretion of public safety members or their designees, this card may be accompanied by verbal identification when the cardholder is not accompanied by verbal identification. This card is valid only for the purpose of identifying the cardholder as a member of the Ventura County Fire Safe Council. Card issuance is granted in honor of the Ventura County Fire Safe Council. www.cvcfiresafe.org

READY, SET, GO!

Wildfire Preparedness for
Farmers, Ranchers and Growers



Implementing the Unit Fire Plan Agriculture



- \$382,000 Grant
- Completed in the fall 2009



Implementing the Unit Fire Plan

- **Vegetation Management**

Outside the 100' FHRP Zone

Changing Fire Behavior.....



Implementing the Unit Fire Plan

Methods available.....

Prescribed fire (Standing brush / Burn piles)

Mechanical

Hand

Chemical (maintenance tool)

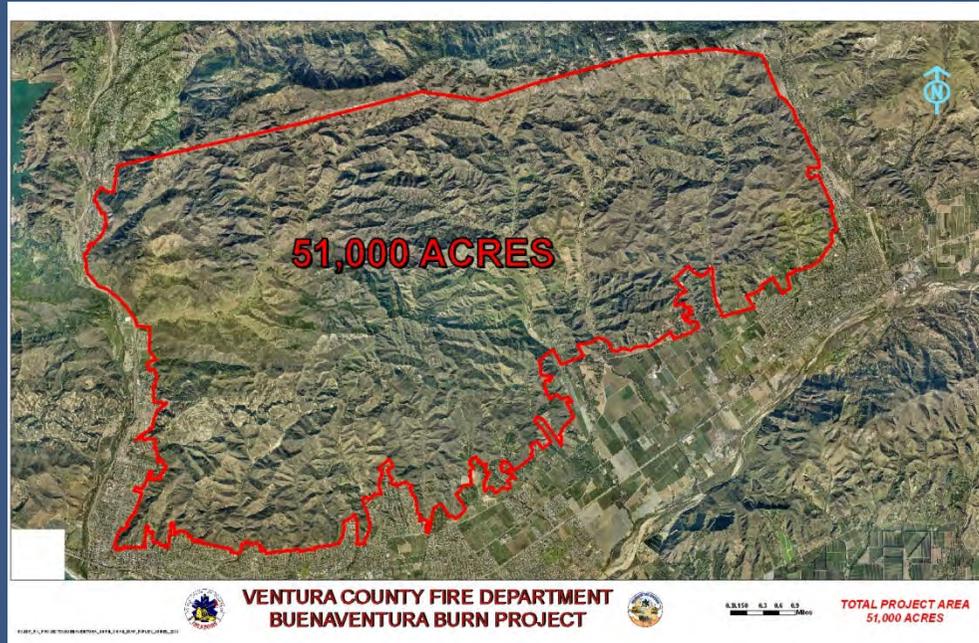
Grazing (maintenance tool)



Implementing the Unit Fire Plan

Methods available.....

Prescribed fire (Standing brush / Burn piles)

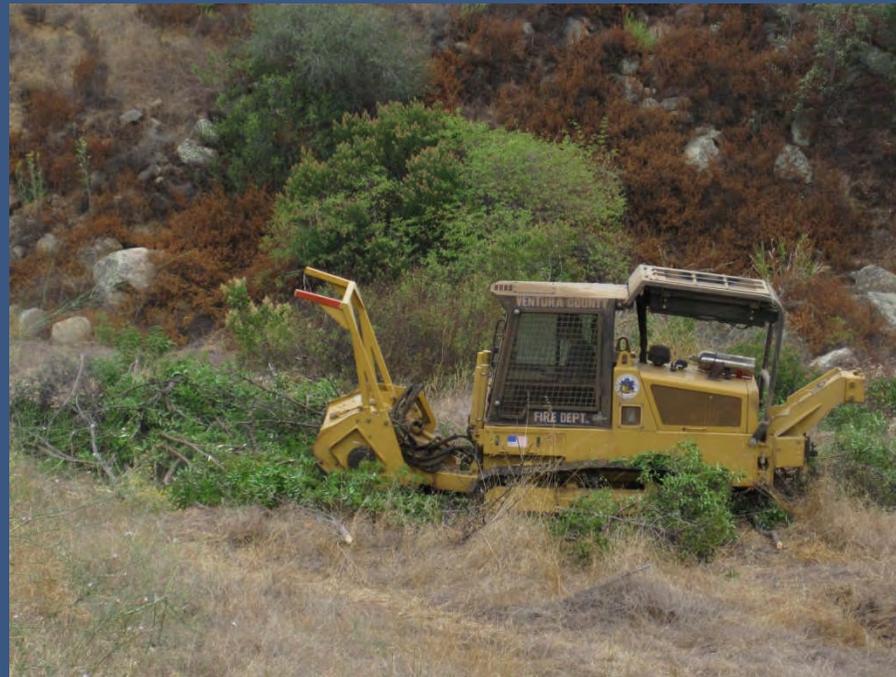




Implementing the Unit Fire Plan

Methods available.....

Mechanical





Implementing the Unit Fire Plan

Methods available.....

Hand





Implementing the Unit Fire Plan

Methods available.....

Chemical
(maintenance tool)



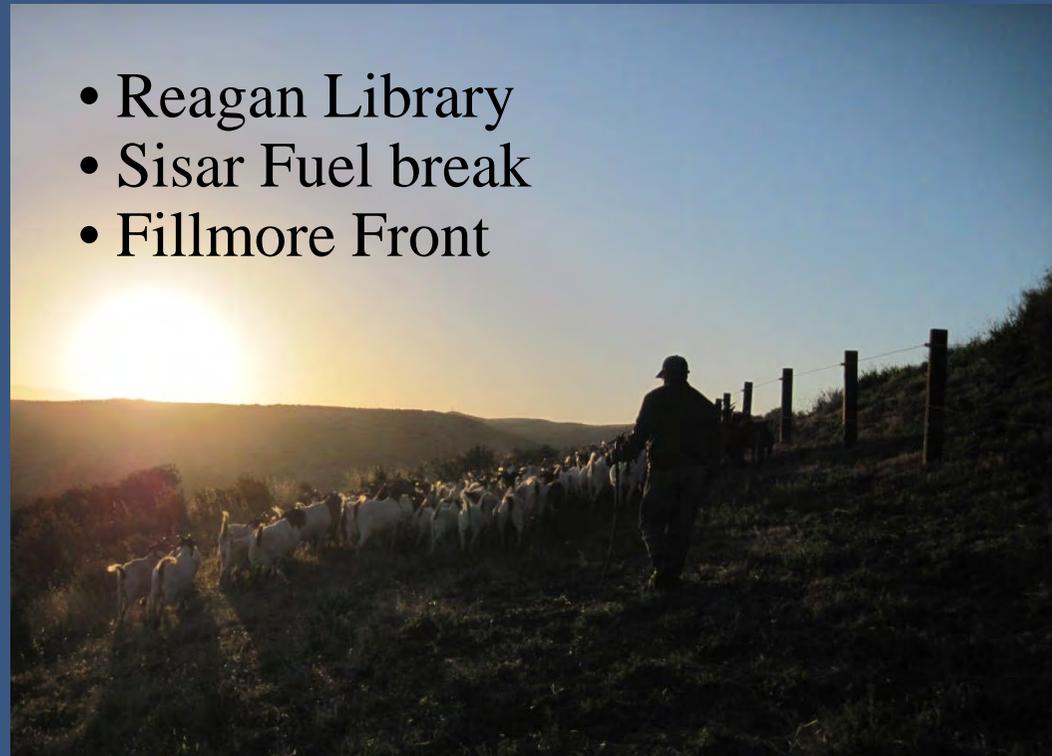


Implementing the Unit Fire Plan

Methods available.....

Grazing
(maintenance tool)

- Reagan Library
- Sisar Fuel break
- Fillmore Front





Implementing the Unit Fire Plan

- Vegetation Management

Utilizing the science.....



Implementing the Unit Fire Plan

- Vegetation Management

KFA Oak
Woodland Restoration



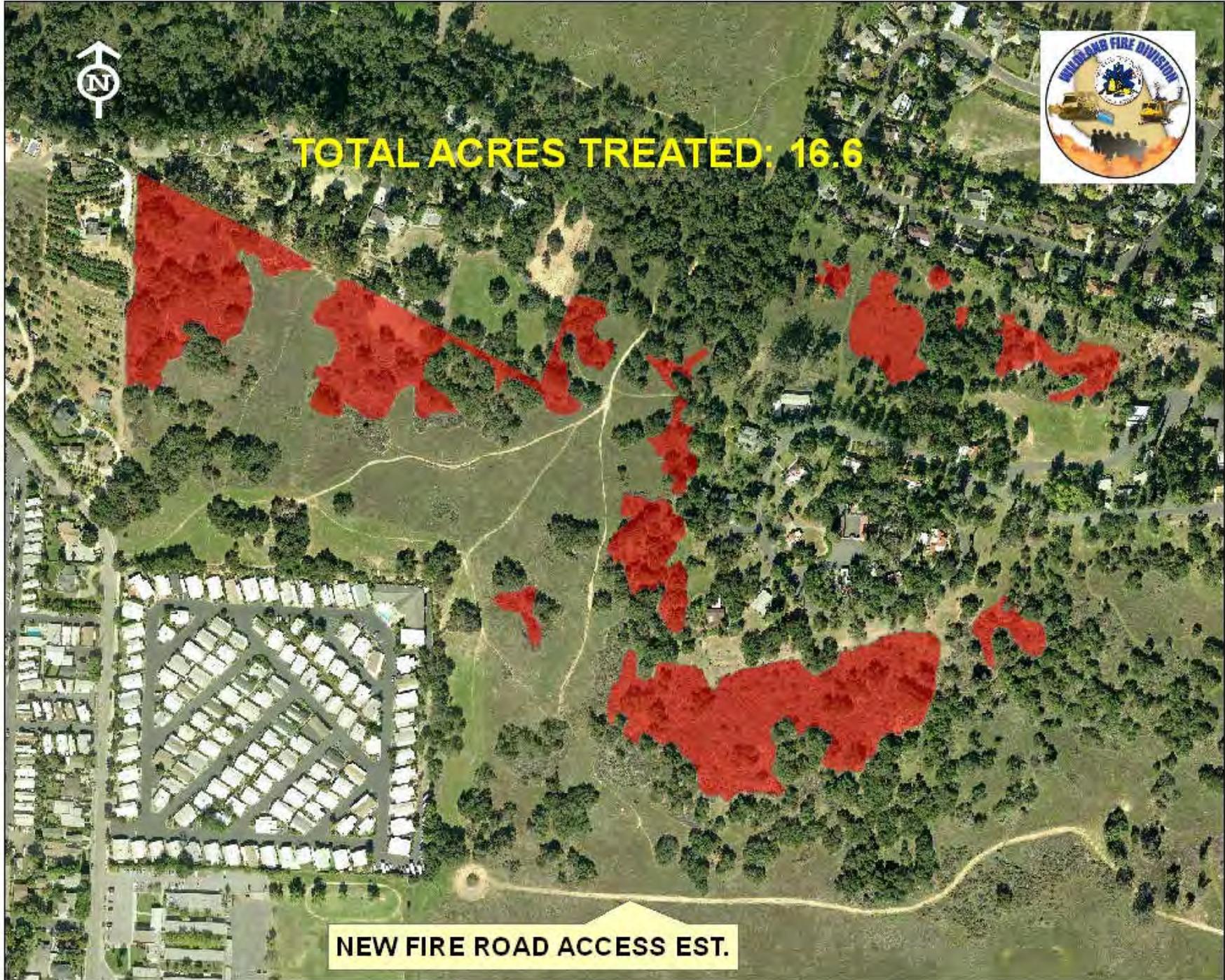


Implementing the Unit Fire Plan

- Vegetation Management

Mitigated Neg. Dec.

CEQA



TOTAL ACRES TREATED: 16.6

NEW FIRE ROAD ACCESS EST.



•HAZARD TREES



•BEFORE



•AFTER

Logs were left on the ground to promote habitat. Fine dead fuels removed leaving only 100 hr + dead fuels.



Hand work done to protect Oak Trees from the forestry mower.



•Mower and crews working

•BEFORE TREATMENT



•AFTER TREATMENT

NOTE BRUSH
SKIRTING





**TREATMENT BY FORESTY
MOWER**



**BRUSH SKIRT HELPS TO
PREVENT SPREAD OF
SEEDS BY WIND AND
PROVIDES VISUAL
BLOCK FOR HIKERS.**







Before



After





Implementing the Unit Fire Plan

KFA Oak
Woodland Restoration

Life or Limb?





Implementing the Unit Fire Plan

Success Stories.....



Implementing the Unit Fire Plan

2013 Springs Fire





Implementing the Unit Fire Plan

24,000 acres
No homes lost !





Hopper Condor Refuge



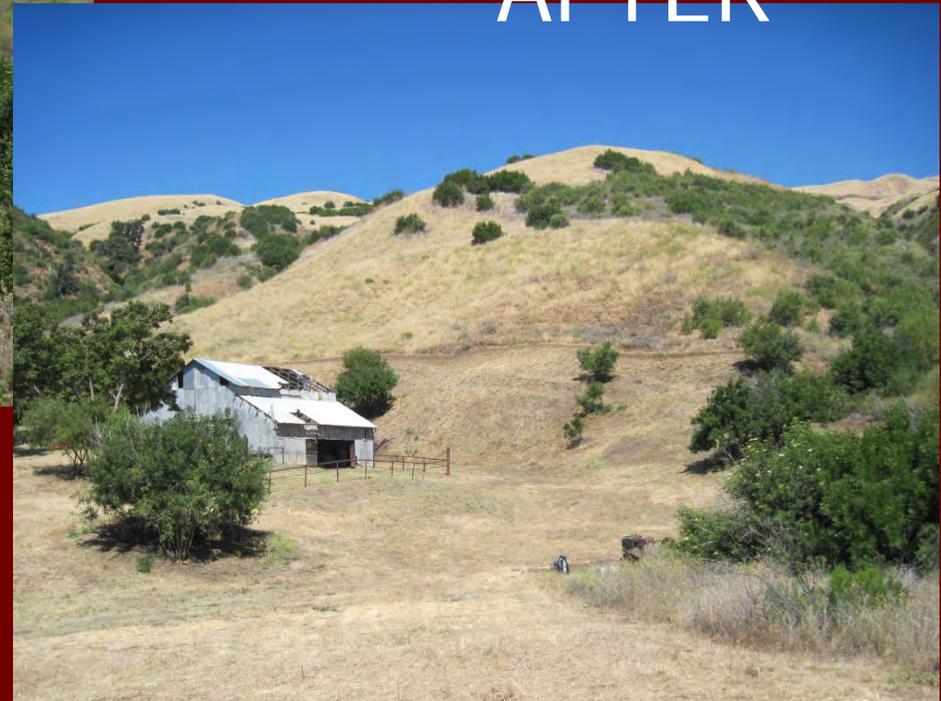
Ventura County Fire Department



HOPPER CONDOR REFUGE



BEFORE



AFTER



Success Story 2007 Ranch Fire



Ventura County Fire Department

RIPLEY'S BELIEVE IT OR NOT®



DURING SUMMER 2008,
A PATCH OF LAND IN VENTURA
COUNTY, Calif., USA, HEATED UP
TO TEMPERATURES HIGHER
THAN 800 DEGREES F —
AND SPARKED BRUSH FIRES
LIKELY DUE TO SPONTANEOUS
COMBUSTION OF AN OIL DEPOSIT
HUNDREDS OF FEET BELOW THE SURFACE!

Submitted By Nate Armstrong

Hopper Mountain Underground Fire



OAK FLAT UNDERGROUND FIRE

- DOZER BREAK: Completed in the spring during maintenance of the Burson Ranch Fire Road. Half a days work.
- HANDCREW: The dozer break is anchored by the handcrew. Half a days work.

OAK FLAT UNDERGROUND FIRE



• History:

- Burning since 2008
- Ignited three fires requiring fire suppression
- Generated numerous false alarms due to smoke visibility from Squaw flat road



OAK FLAT UNDERGROUND FIRE

•CURRENT STATUS:

•Still burning

•Expanding – Additional vents have been identified within the slide area

•Gasses present at vent: Helium – Hydrogen – Argon - Oxygen - Nitrogen
Carbon dioxide - Carbon monoxide - Methane
Ethane - Propane – Butane - Hydrogen sulfide
Other hydrocarbons





OAK FLAT UNDERGROUND FIRE

•CURRENT STATUS:

•Still burning

•Expanding – Additional vents have been identified within the slide area

•Gasses present at vent: Helium – Hydrogen – Argon - Oxygen - Nitrogen
Carbon dioxide - **Carbon monoxide** - Methane
Ethane - Propane – Butane - **Hydrogen sulfide**
Other hydrocarbons







Implementing the Unit Fire Plan

Looking forward.....

Status of projects listed in the Unit Fire Plan:

10 – Projects underway

4 – Projects in development

25 – Projects in planning

8 – Projects in maintenance phase

***THE
END***



**THANKS
FOR LISTENING.**

