CLIMATE & WILDFIRE INSTITUTE

Accelerating solutions to the era's most pressing wildfire and climate challenges.

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The Climate & Wildfire Institute (CWI) is a nonprofit organization that connects science to public policy and decision-making to accelerate solutions to a fast-changing climate. We operate at the boundaries of science, policy, and practice to bring communities and cross-sector leaders together, putting science into action to build climate and wildfire resilience.

Bringing climate and wildfire science to policy and decision-makers speeds the implementation of science-based approaches at the regional and local levels, a critical component to ensuring solutions are practical and accessible to even our more vulnerable communities.

CWI OPERATIONAL ELEMENTS

- Convening
- Policy and Decision-making Context
- Science and Technology Transfer
- Research as a Service
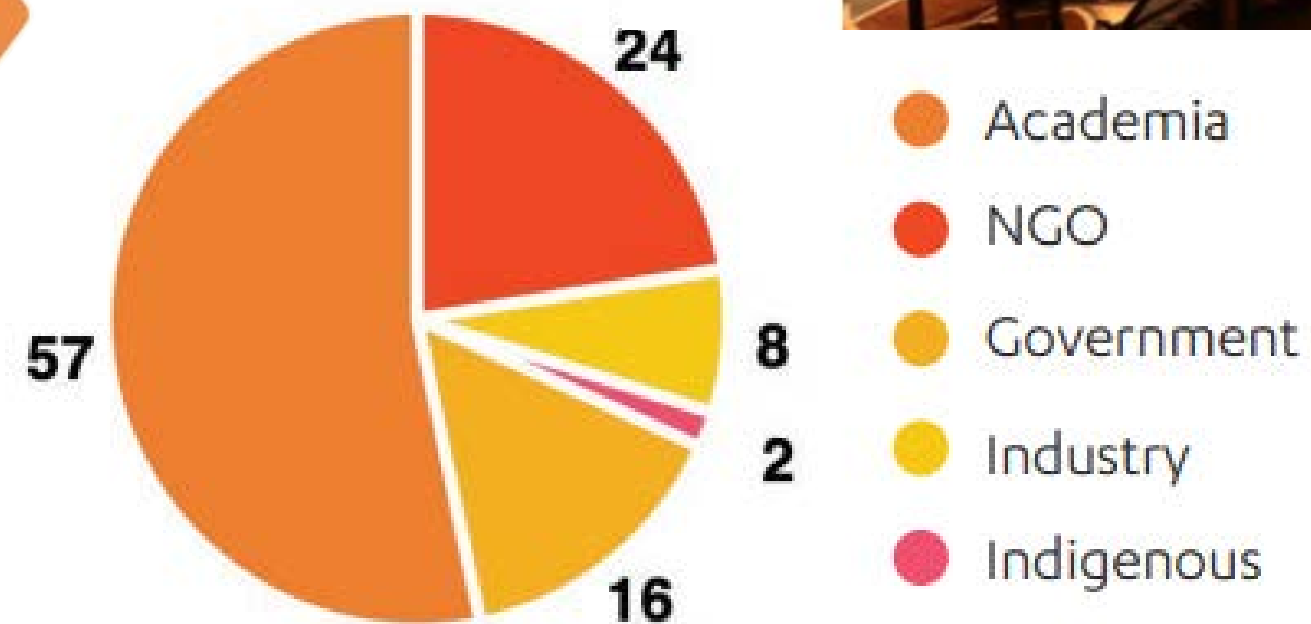- Open Digital Infrastructure

CWI PROJECTS

- Wildfire And Landscape Resilience Data Hub
- California Year in Fire Policy Project
- Regional Resource Kits
- Interagency Tracking System
- The Stewardship Project: Integrating Indigenous And Western Knowledges
- Million Acres Scenarios (CA Wildfire Task Force)
- Teakettle Experimental Forest Rx Burn
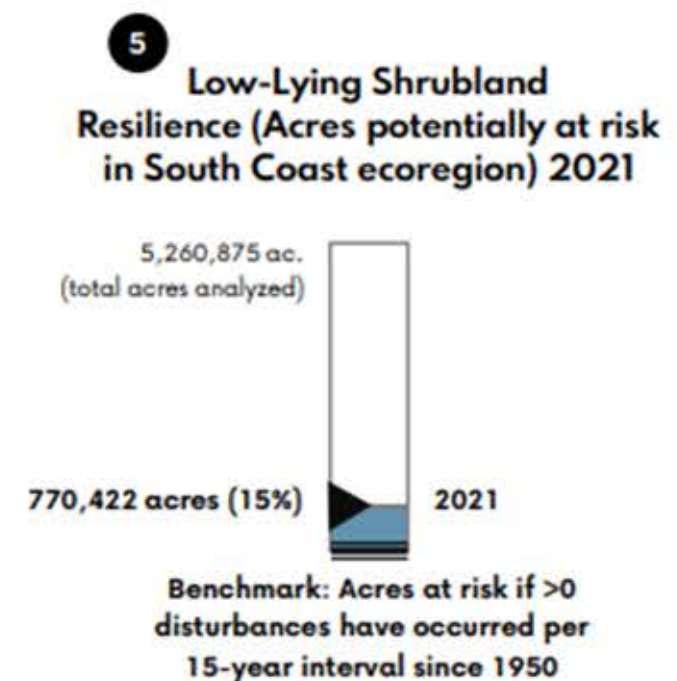
CWI Inaugural Convening of 168 Stakeholders

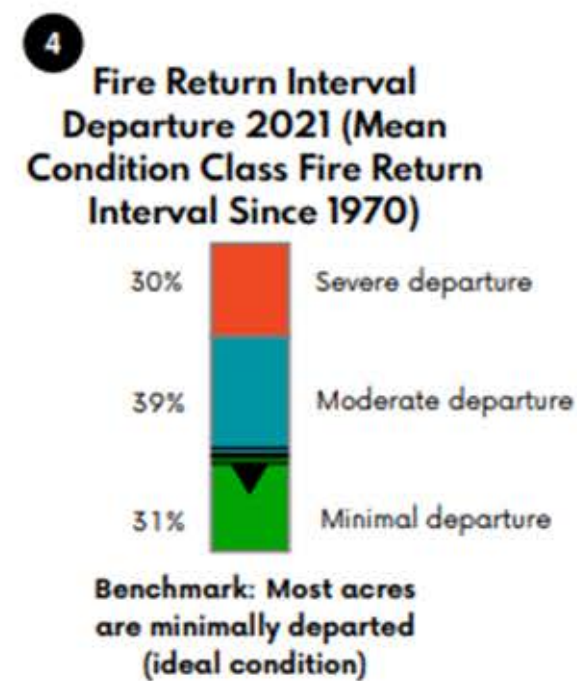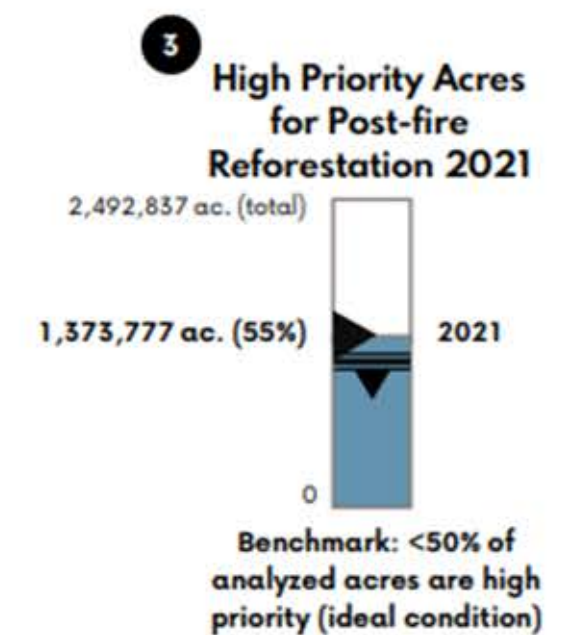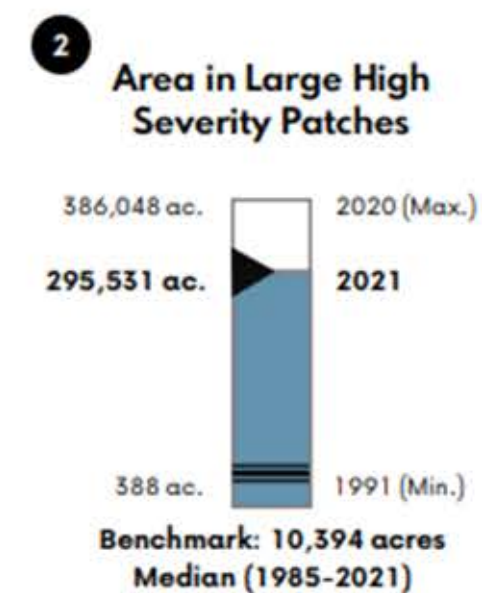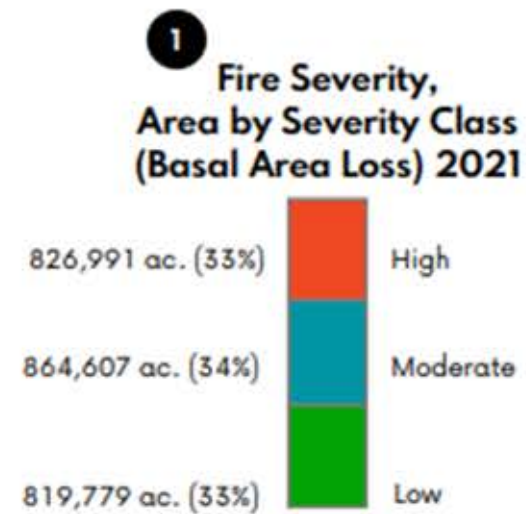The CWI Inaugural Convening was envisioned as an opportunity to bring together a broad spectrum of stakeholders who could help define and determine issues of most pressing need and highest impact for CWI's initial work.

Convening: UCLA 2022

Pie chart:
- 24 — NGO
- 57 — Academia
- 8 — Industry
- 2 — Indigenous
- 16 — Government

Legend:
- Academia
- NGO
- Government
- Industry
- Indigenous

A more nuanced and complete assessment of the social and ecological impacts of wildland fire in California. For example: How is wildfire impacting ecological resilience?

Using Data: Year in Fire Project

1 Fire Severity, Area by Severity Class (Basal Area Loss) 2021

826,991 ac. (33%) — High

864,607 ac. (34%) — Moderate

819,779 ac. (33%) — Low

2 Area in Large High Severity Patches

386,048 ac. — 2020 (Max.)

295,531 ac. — 2021

388 ac. — 1991 (Min.)

Benchmark: 10,394 acres Median (1985–2021)

3 High Priority Acres for Post-fire Reforestation 2021

2,492,837 ac. (total)

1,373,777 ac. (55%) — 2021

0

Benchmark: <50% of analyzed acres are high priority (ideal condition)

4 Fire Return Interval Departure 2021 (Mean Condition Class Fire Return Interval Since 1970)

30% — Severe departure

39% — Moderate departure

31% — Minimal departure

Benchmark: Most acres are minimally departed (ideal condition)

5 Low-Lying Shrubland Resilience (Acres potentially at risk in South Coast ecoregion) 2021

5,260,875 ac. (total acres analyzed)

770,422 acres (15%) — 2021

Benchmark: Acres at risk if >0 disturbances have occurred per 15-year interval since 1950

Legend
≡ Benchmark

Source: Year In Fire Project, Center For Law Energy & the Environment, UC Berkeley

CWI LOCATIONS

CWI @ UCLA

CWI @ TAHOE

We can reduce wildfire risk and counter climate change's impacts through precise, coordinated action that remains rooted in science. CWI leverages the academy's research talent, the private sector's nimbleness, and the public sector's decision-making leadership for faster and more innovative solutions.

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