

# **WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS BRIEFING**

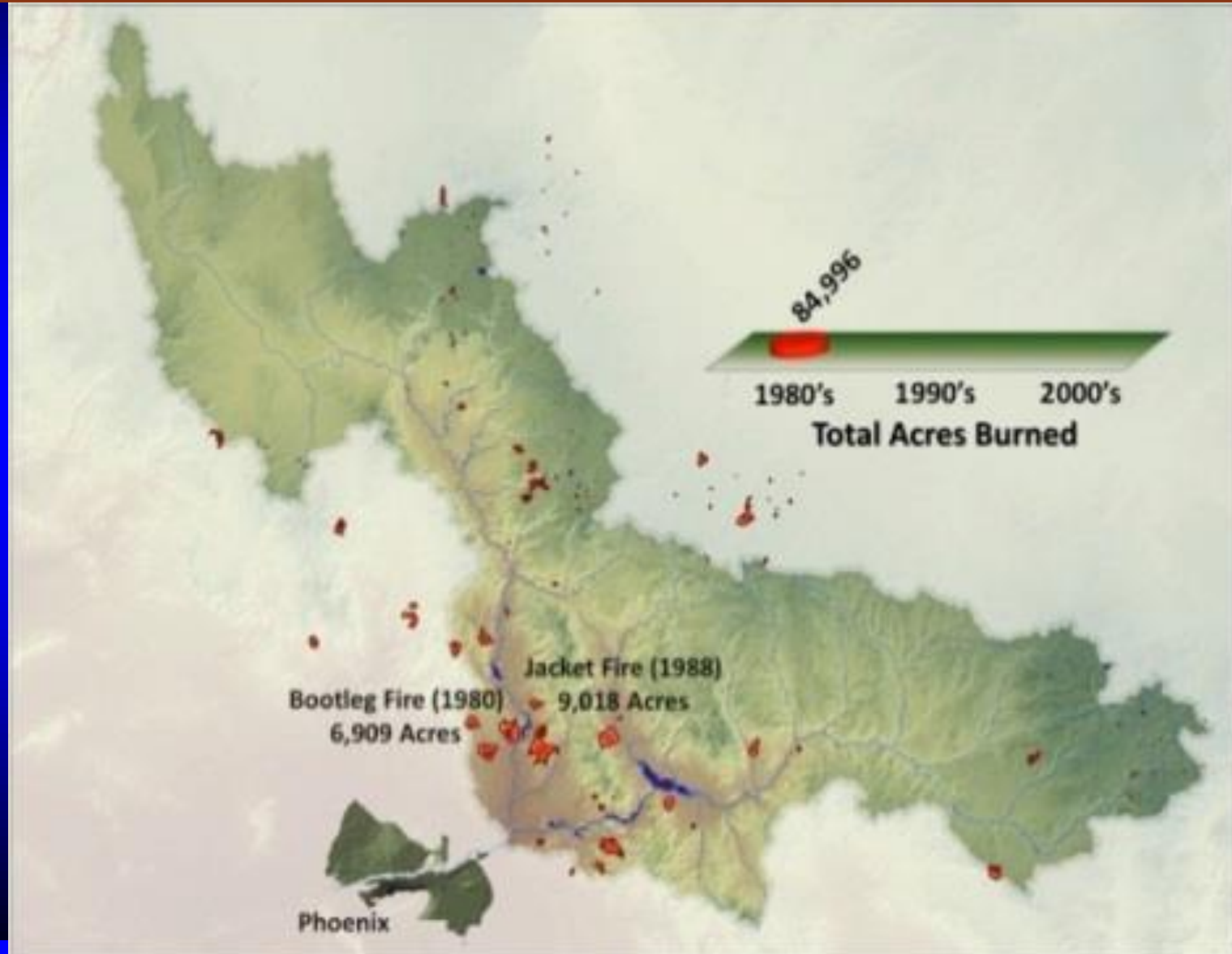
*Apr 30, 2019*



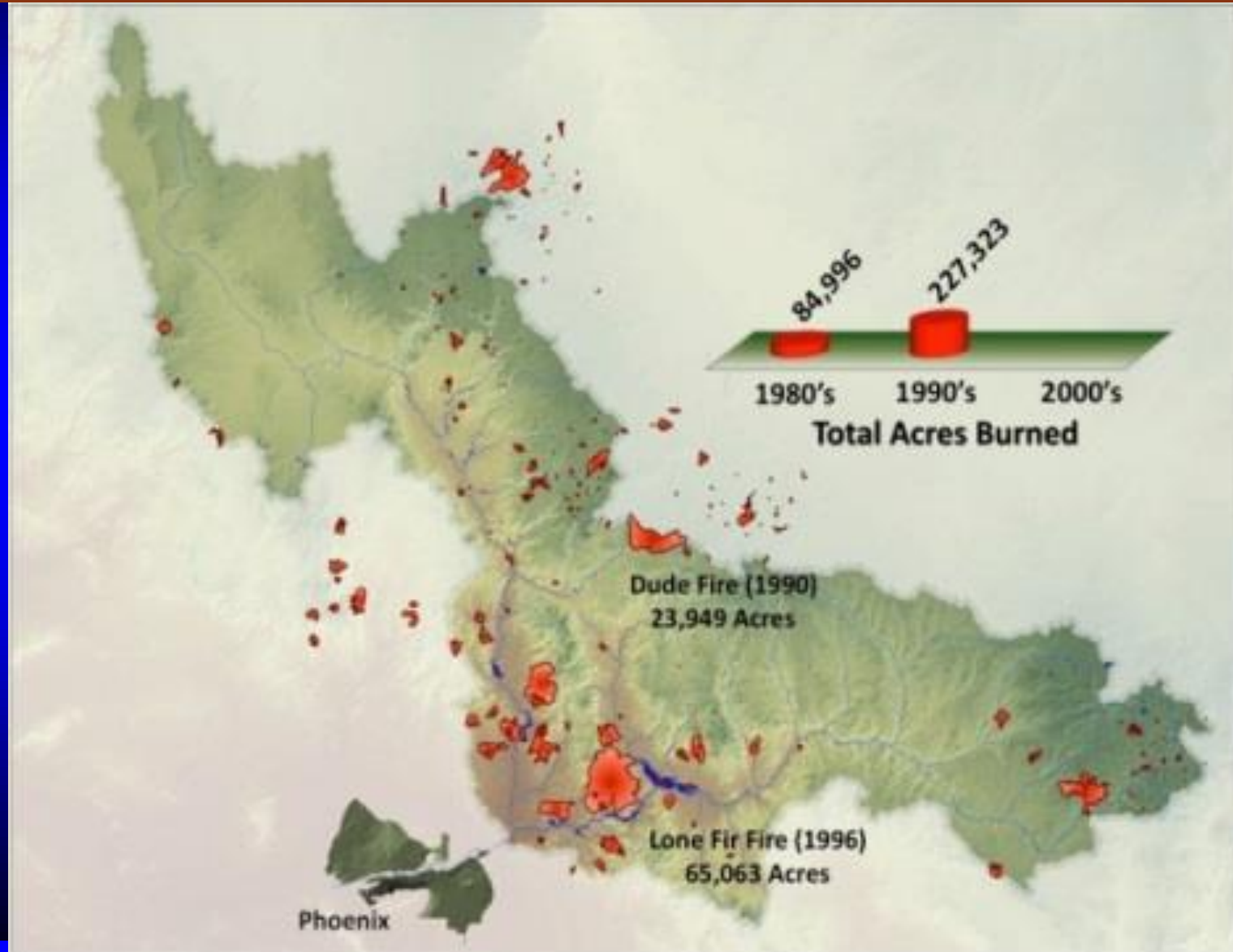
*Paul Summerfelt – FFD  
Sgt Ryan Coons – FPD  
Todd Whitney – CCEM  
John Haro – APS  
Duane Tewa – USFS*

*... each have a role,  
all our partners*

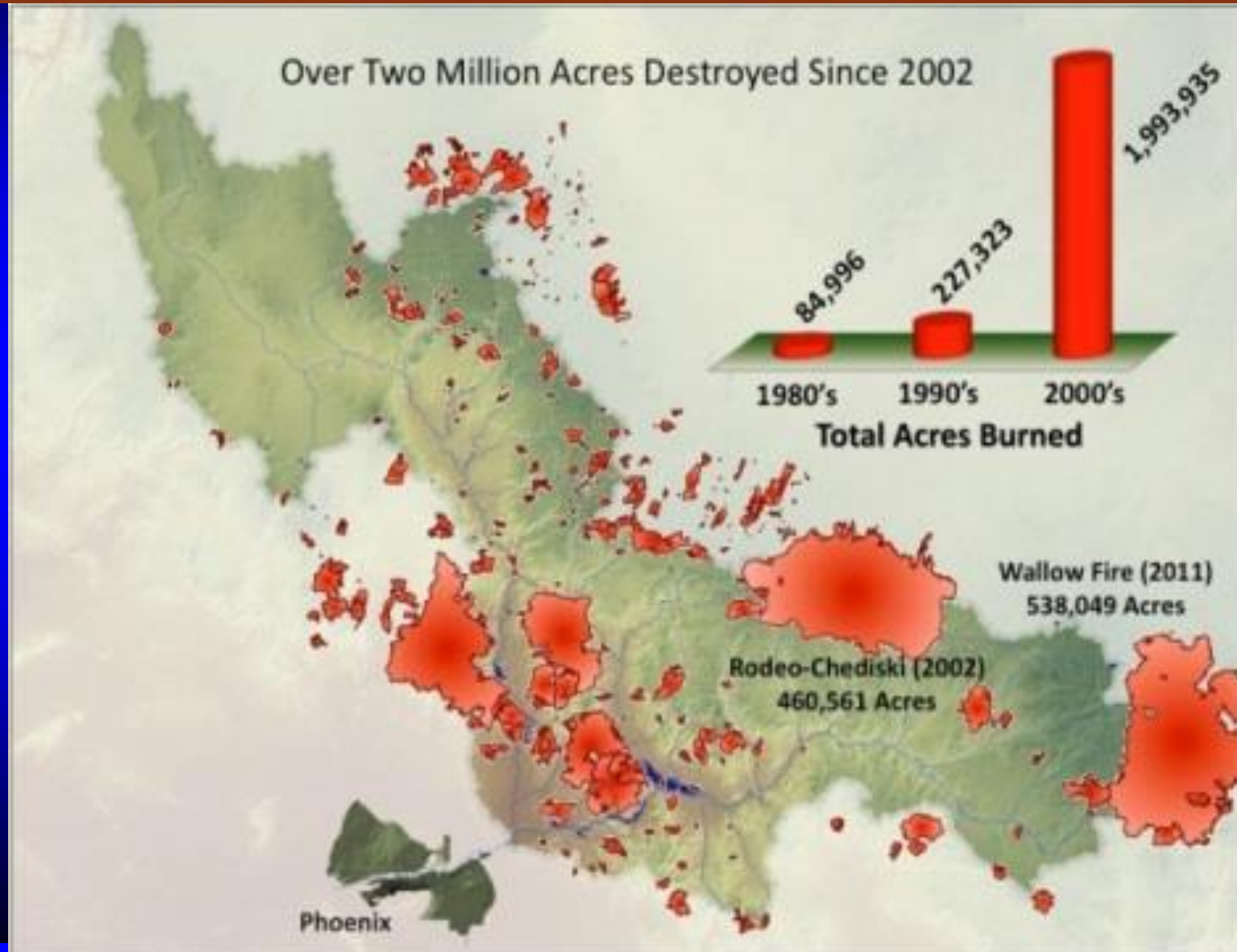
# Total Acres Burned 1980s



# Total Acres Burned 1990s



# Total Acres Burned 2000's



# Fire Year Factors

Severity & Duration highly dependent upon:



1. Drought
2. Fine Fuels Condition
3. Weather - temperature, RH, & wind
4. Monsoon
5. Ignitions

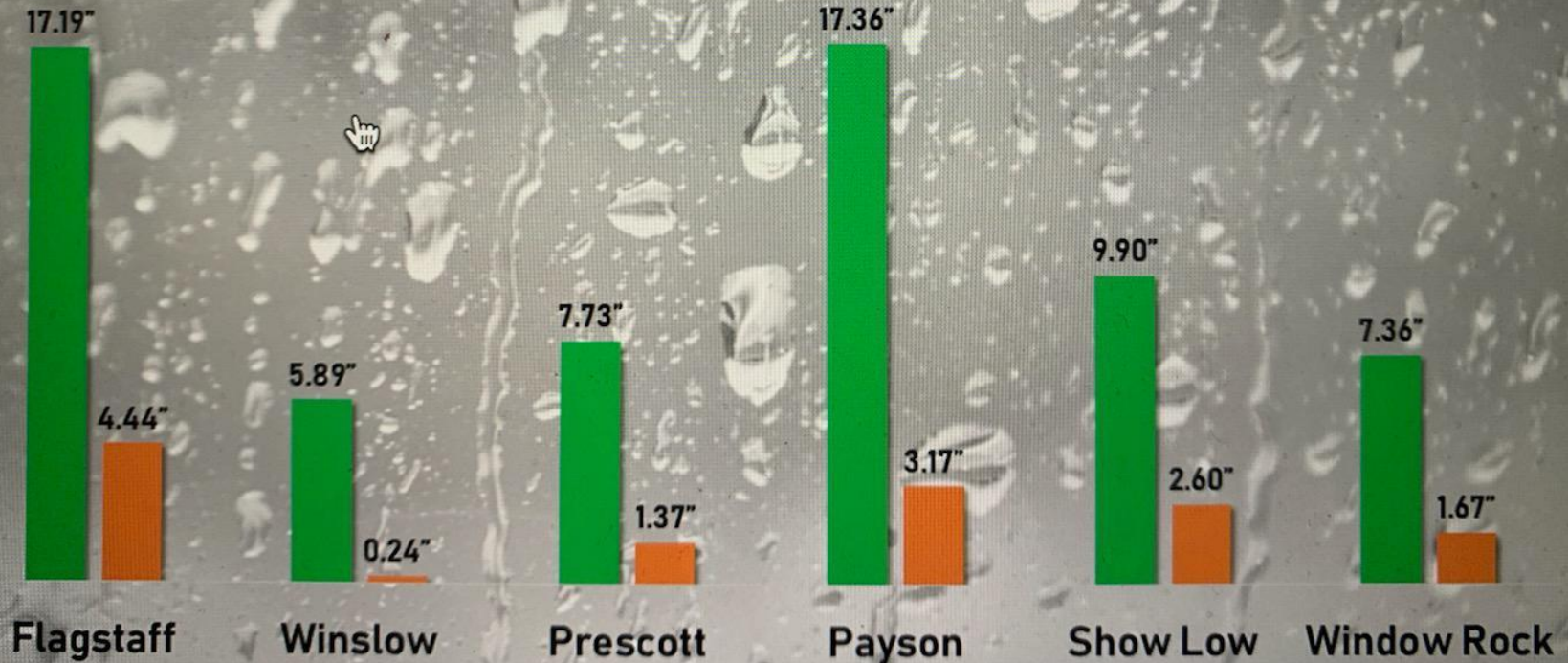
## Wet Fall And Winter



# What A Difference One Year Makes

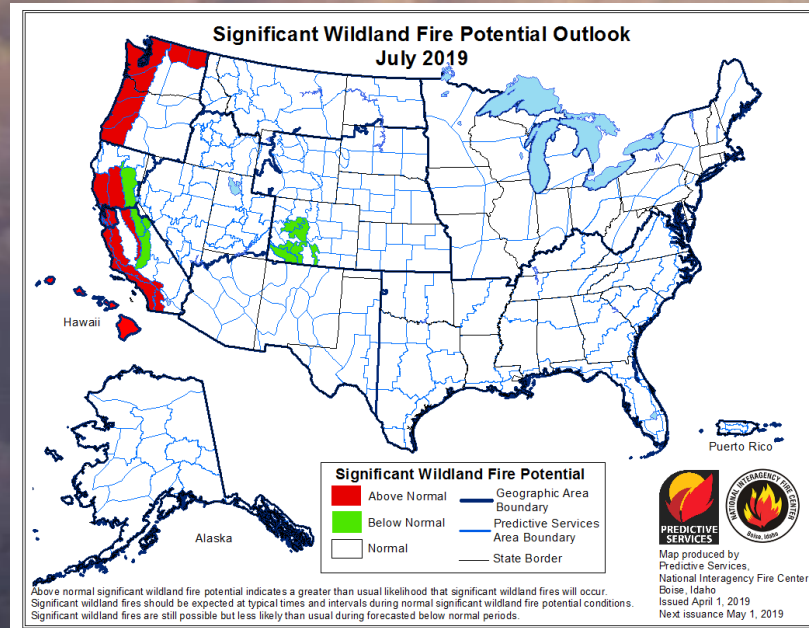
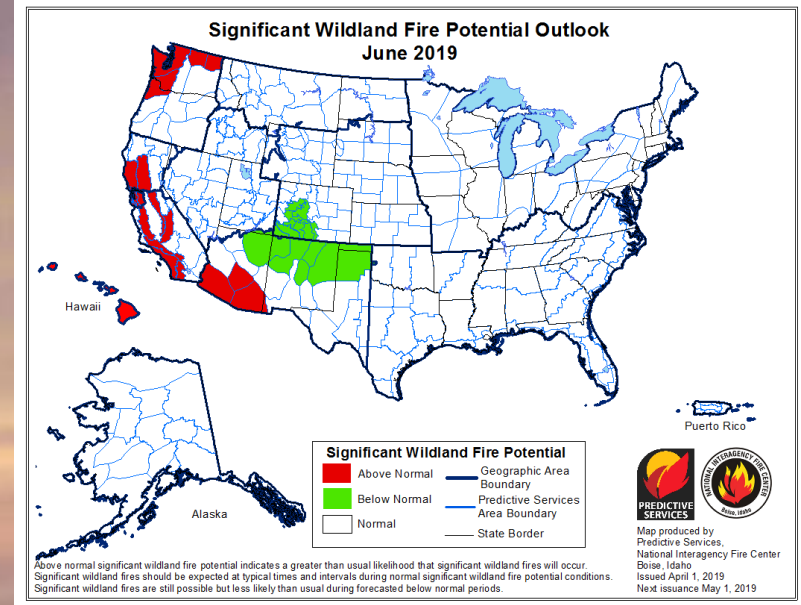
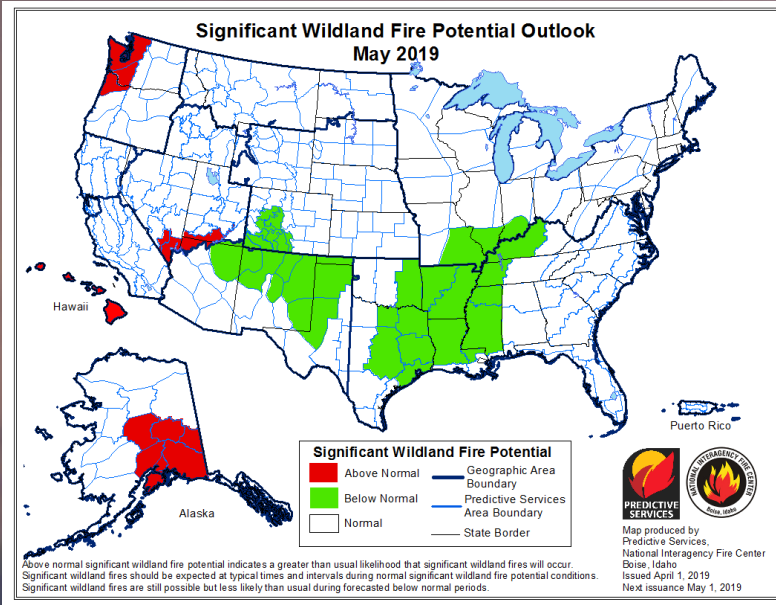
October 1<sup>st</sup> to March 14<sup>th</sup>

 2018-2019 Precipitation (inches)  
 2017-2018 Precipitation (inches)

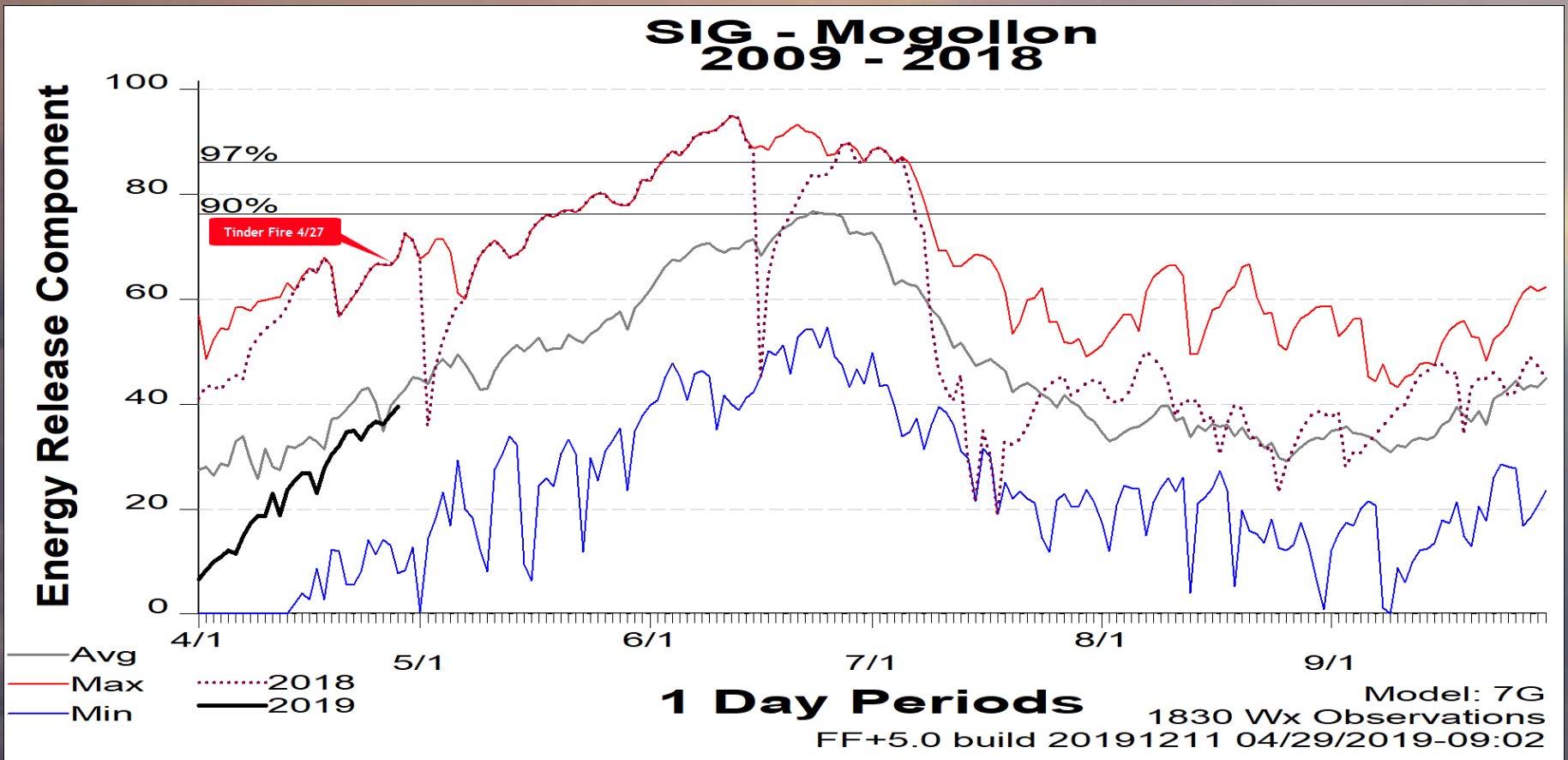


[Show Caption](#)

# National Significant Wildland Fire Potential Outlook



# Our Status & Readiness Posture



# Our Status & Readiness Posture

- It's always fire season,
- Only questions are *when, where, and how long,*
- We prepare every year,
- We are ready year-round,
- There are always wildcards,
- We aren't in this alone,
- Everybody plays a part.



# 2019 Focus Areas

## • Prevention:

- **Engagement w/shelter**
- **Woods Watch**
- **Joint patrols w/PD**



## • Preparedness:

- **Community Wildfire Preparedness Day – May 4<sup>th</sup>**
- **Restrictions & Closure Plan -**
  - ❖ **Updated**
  - ❖ **Staff orientation**
  - ❖ **Weekly partner coordination calls & City Dept Updates**





# 2019 Focus Areas

- Preparedness (cont):

- **Training: AZ Wildfire Academy, Annual Refresher**

- Hazard Mitigation:

- **Forest Treatments: Thinning, debris disposal, Rx fire**
- **Home & Property clean-up: Firewise**

- Response:

- **Line & City Crew 1**
- **Severity Unit(s)**

- Recovery: as required



# COLLABORATION & PARTNERSHIPS



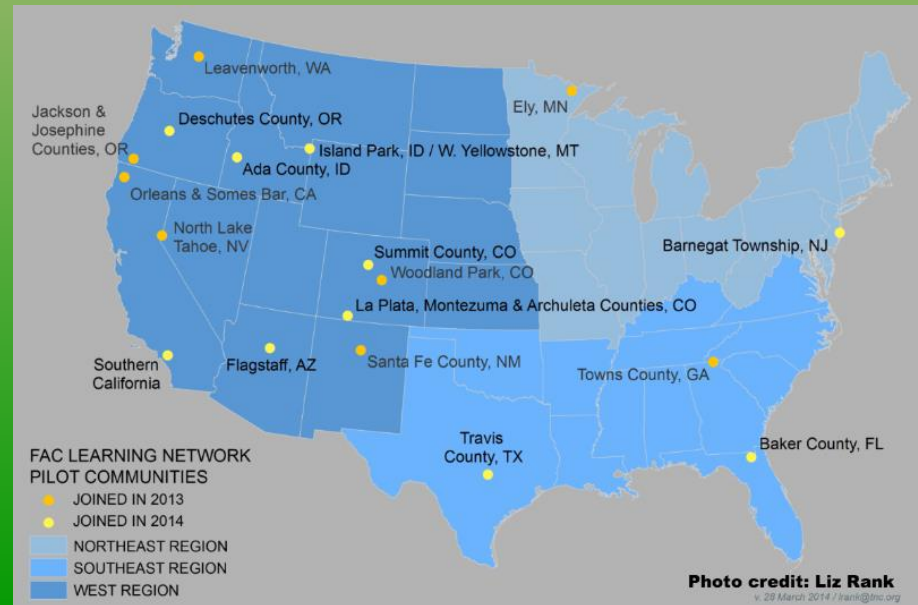
**FLAGSTAFF WATERSHED  
PROTECTION PROJECT**



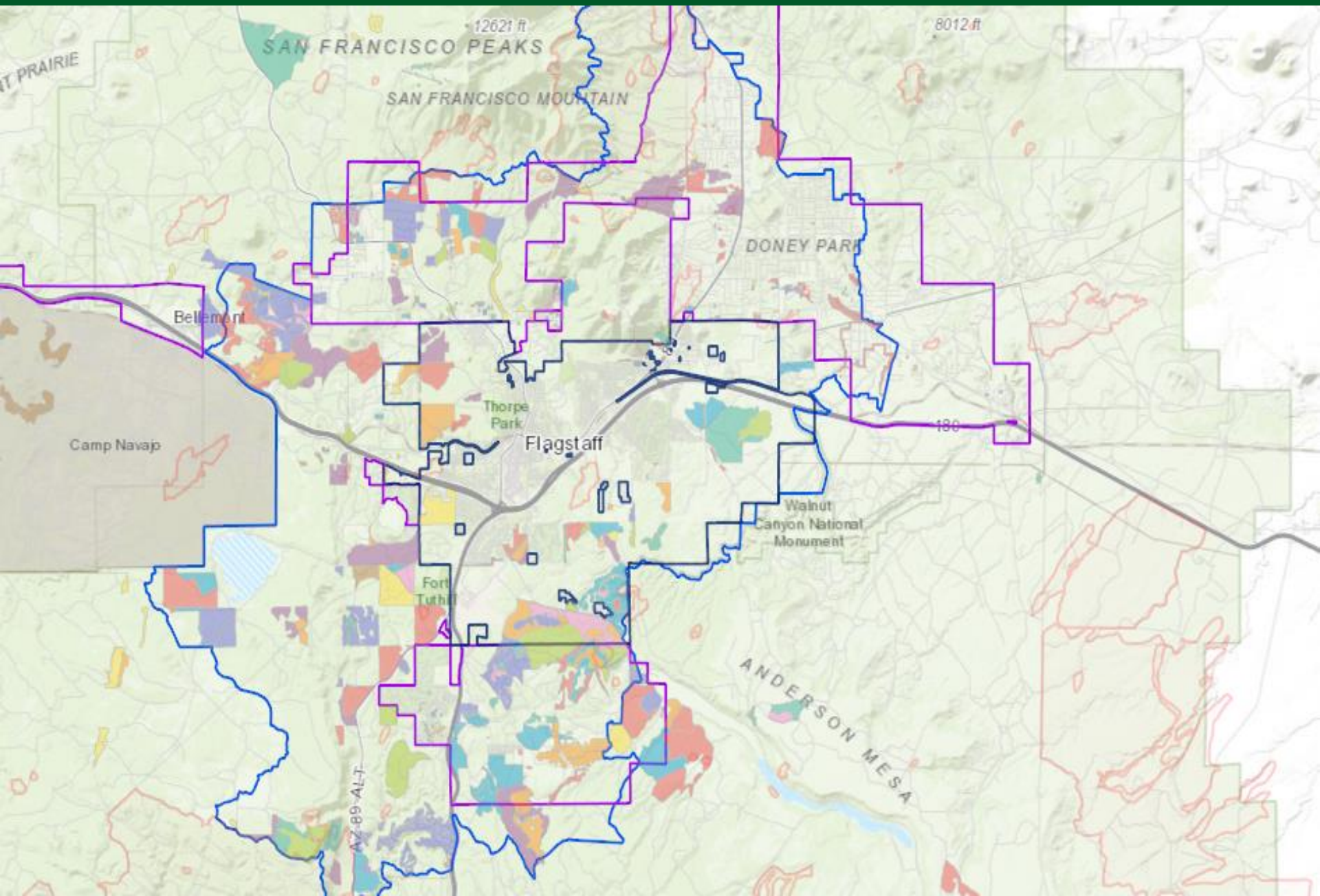
**TEAM RUBICON**



***Fire Adapted Communities →  
&  
Fellow Fire Depts  
(Ashland OR, Austin TX, Santa Fe NM)***

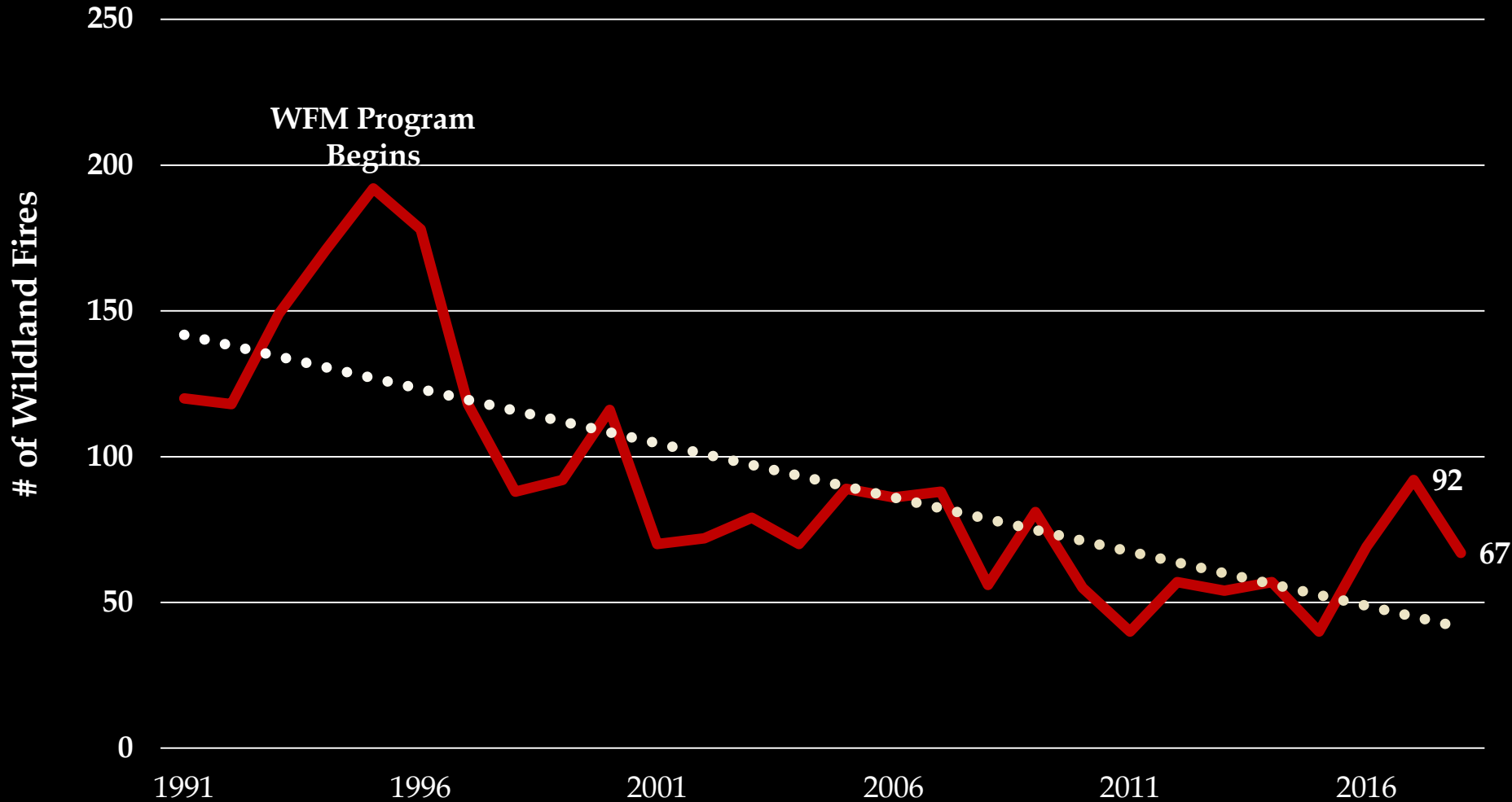


# Greater Flagstaff Area Forest Treatment Map



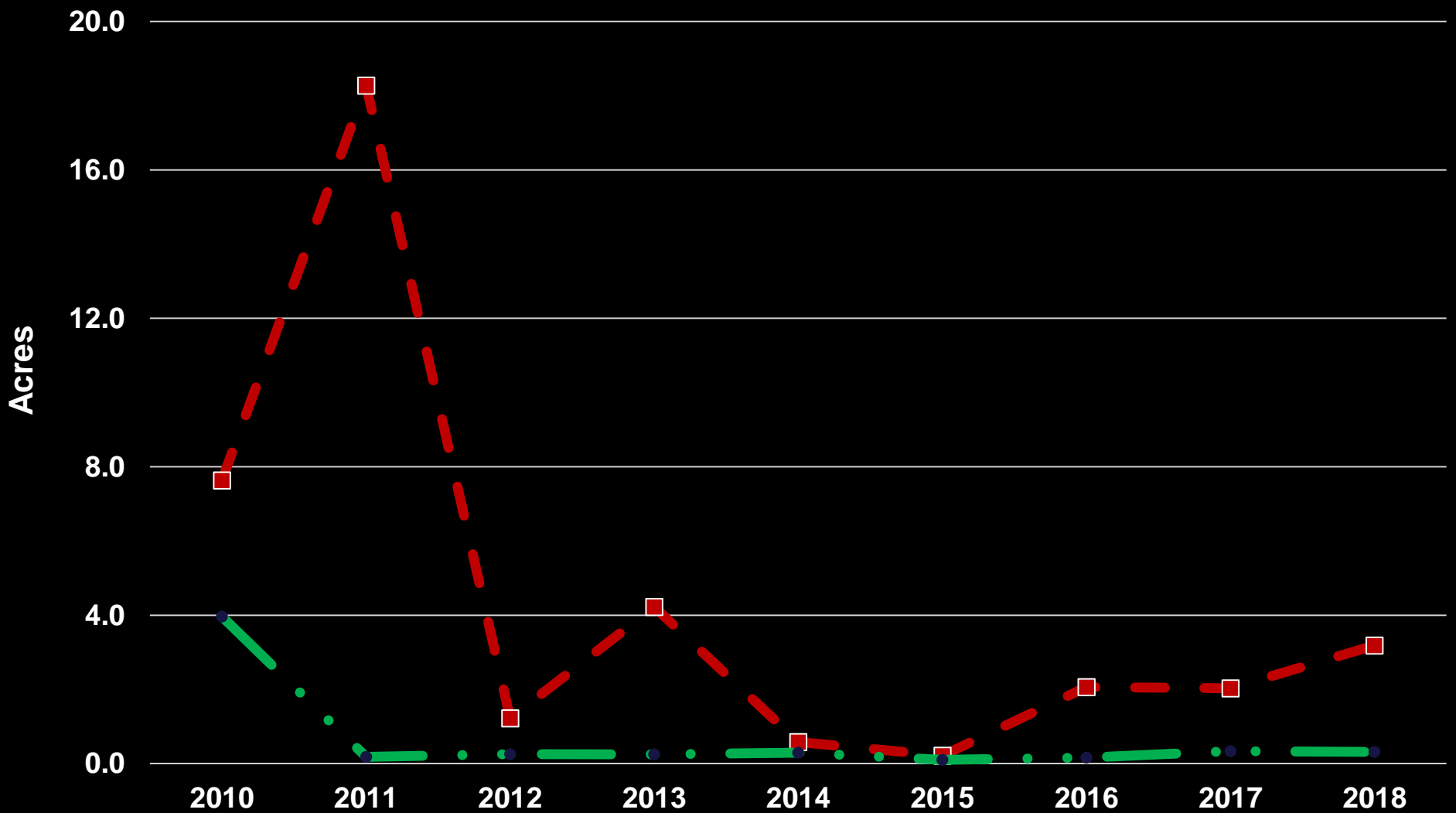
# Wildland Fire Occurance

— Wildland Fire Occurance    •• Linear Trend (Wildland Fire Occurance)



# Wildland Fire Size in Treated and Untreated Areas

■ Untreated: Average Annual Fire Size    ● Treated: Average Annual Fire Size



# Law Enforcement Fire Prevention Patrols



- Proactive patrols typically start in May. This year, the PD began preparing for forest patrols in April
- Patrols begin when weather becomes more moderate due to a “Necessity” clause in the city camping ordinance
  - *Fire danger is lower during (most) winter months due to precipitation*



**TEAM FLAGSTAFF**

WE MAKE THE CITY BETTER



# Law Enforcement Fire Prevention Patrols

## Patrol Efforts

- Early morning patrols in the wooded areas of Flagstaff to address illegal camping and campfires
- Night time flights looking for illegal campsites and campfires begin in coordination with fire restrictions
  - *Fire assets can be directed to the area by personnel on the flight*
- The Justice Assistance Grant will be used to pay overtime costs associated with evening flights
  - *1 officer daily for 2 - 3 hours*



**Evening air patrols  
conducted with CCSO**



**TEAM FLAGSTAFF**

WE MAKE THE CITY BETTER



# Law Enforcement Fire Prevention Patrols



## Woods Watch Volunteers

- The Woods Watch program will be coordinated with the Coconino County Sheriff's Office again this year
- Woods Watch volunteers aid law enforcement by reporting violations of forest closure restrictions



**TEAM FLAGSTAFF**

WE MAKE THE CITY BETTER



# Coconino County Emergency Management



- **Full-Time Department (5)**
- **Director, Coordinator, Planner, Specialist, CERT Volunteer**

# Coconino County Emergency Management

- **City / County EOC Coordination.**
- **Emergency Operations Centers Upgraded.**
  - ***LEAF / GEMINI***
  - ***Procedures***
  - ***Staffing***
  - ***Exercised***



# Coconino County Emergency Management

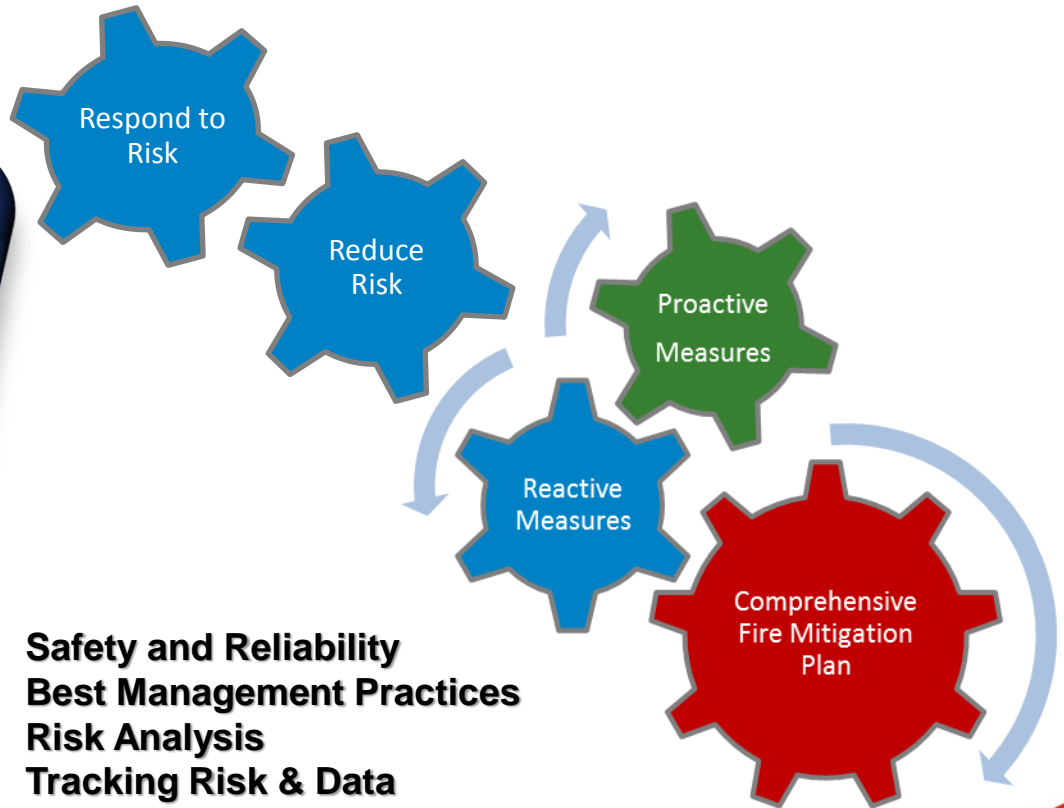
- **Wildfire Defense Ordinance**
- **Planning efforts underway**
  - *Mass Evacuation*
  - *EOP Update*
- **Collaboration with Public Health Emergency Preparedness, Regional EOC's**
- **Enhanced Training and Exercises**





# Fire Mitigation 2019





- **Safety and Reliability**
- **Best Management Practices**
- **Risk Analysis**
- **Tracking Risk & Data Analysis**
- **Incident Management Response**

# Fire Mitigation Development 2019



**Increased spend in  
Hazard Trees**



**Increased spend in  
DSAP program**



**Increased staffing to  
support FM efforts**



**Reclosing Strategy (12kV)  
Extending to 69kV**



**Technology Assessment for  
new FM technologies**



**Safety Line Patrols  
on High Risk Feeders**



**Maintenance Backlog  
Completion**



**Public Outreach**



# Coconino National Forest Fire and Aviation Management Program

## ▶ **Chief's Letter of Intent...**

### **National Cohesive Strategy**

- ▶ ***“Continuing Commitment to Life First...  
▶ ***Stop...Think...Talk...Act”******

- ▶ *Implement strategies and tactics that commit responders only to operations where and when they can be successful, and under conditions where important values actually at risk are protected with the least exposure necessary while maintaining relationships with the people we serve.*

# Wildland Fire Dispatch

- ▶ **Coconino National Forest**
- ▶ **BIA Navajo and Hopi Agencies**
- ▶ **Flagstaff and Verde Valley Monuments**
- ▶ **PFAC and the Greater Flagstaff Area**





# Fire Prevention Strategies

- **Education**
- **Patrols**
- **Severity**
- **Restrictions**





# Wildfire Detection

- ▶ **Lookout Towers**
- ▶ **Aerial Detection**
- ▶ **FTS Cameras**
- ▶ **Public**





# Engines and Crews (USFS)

- ▶ **Engines (12)**
- ▶ **Crews (3)**
- ▶ **Water Tenders (4)**
- ▶ **Dozers (2)**
- ▶ **Misc. Overhead**
- ▶ **178 Total Firefighters**





# National Ground Resources

- ▶ **60 Interagency IMT**
- ▶ **113 Interagency Hotshot Crews**
- ▶ **10,000 Firefighters**
- ▶ **900 Engines**
- ▶ **Partners**
- ▶ **International**





# National Air Resources

- ▶ **18 Large/Very Large Fixed-Winged Air tankers**
- ▶ **5-7 SEAT's in the SW in 2019**
- ▶ **28 Type 1 Helicopters, 34 Type 2 Helicopters**
- ▶ **13 Exclusive Use Helicopters in the SW**
- ▶ **Fixed Winged Fleet**



# Questions ?

