

Reducing Wildfire Risk to Your Home and Outbuildings

June 29, 2021

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Outline

- Summary
- Wildfire factors
- The context for understanding wildfire today
- Analysis of wildfire risk to homes

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Workshop Summary

- Get flammable material away from your home
- Keep fire and embers from getting inside your home
- If you live in the wildland-urban interface, don't landscape your lawn as you would in the suburban Midwest
- No guarantees, but can reduce risk
- Use common sense

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Wildfire Factors

- Fuel
- Density and continuity of fuel
- Fuel moisture
- Topography
- Wind, humidity (weather)
- Ignition source
- Suppression resource availability

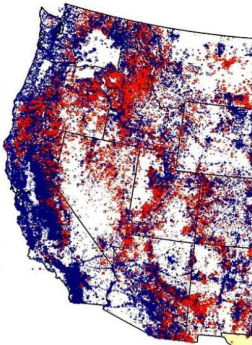
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WILDFIRE RISK

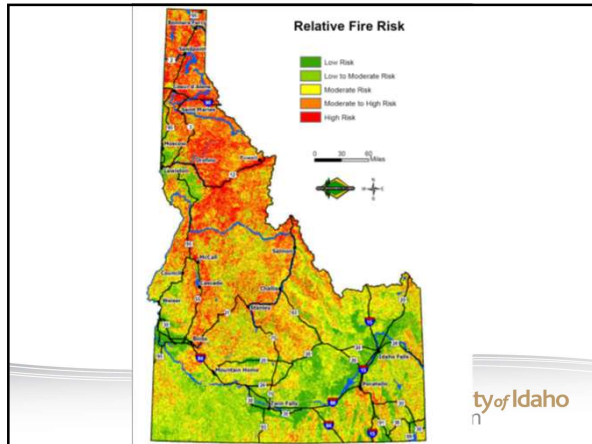
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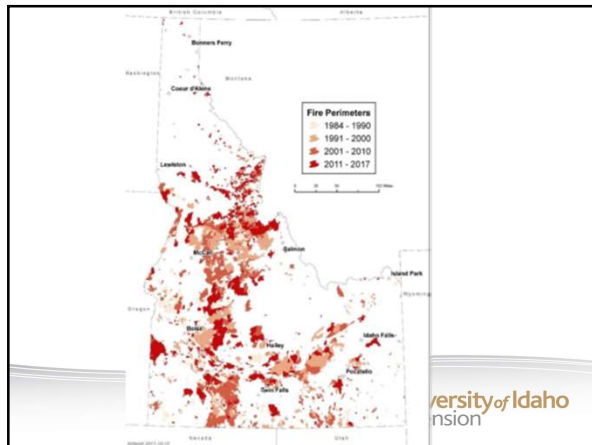


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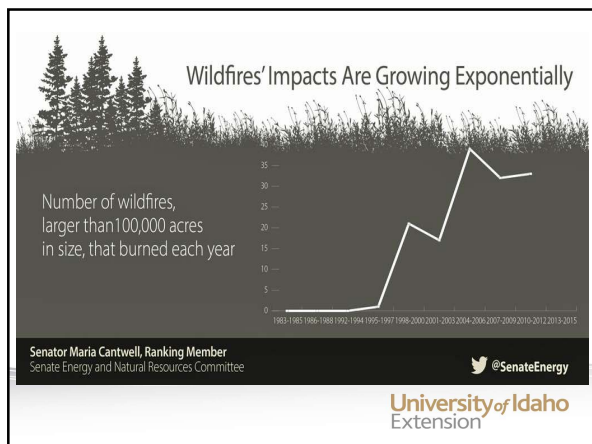
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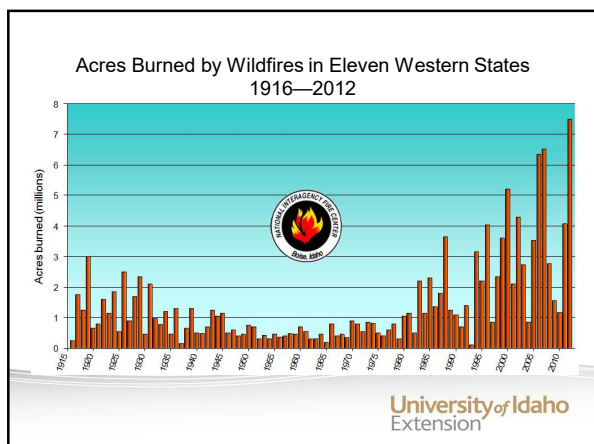
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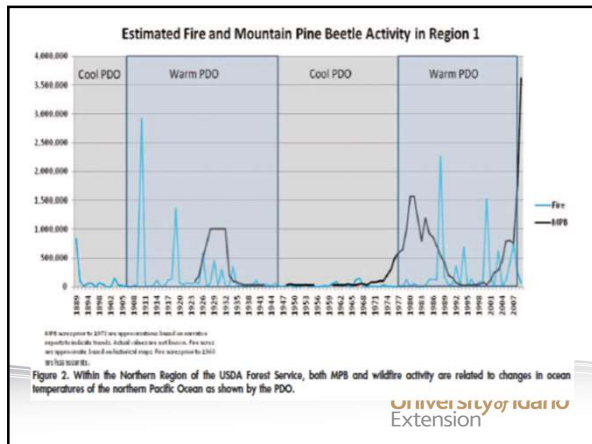
TOP 10 MOST WILDFIRE-PRONE STATES, 2013

By households			By percent			By insured wildfire loss		
Rank	State	Households at high or extreme risk from wildfires (†)	Rank	State	Percent of households at high or extreme risk from wildfires	Rank	State	Largest insured wildfire loss (year)
1	California	1,989,100	1	Idaho	24.1% 1	1	California	\$1.7 billion (1991)
2	Texas	1,299,800	2	Colorado	16.9	2	Colorado	\$450 million (2012)
3	Colorado	373,600	3	California	14.5	3	Texas	\$530 million (2011)
4	Washington	163,400	4	New Mexico	13.6	4	New Mexico	\$140 million (2000)
5	Idaho	160,800	5	Texas	13.0	5	Arizona	\$120 million (2002)
6	Oregon	159,800	6	Utah	12.8	6	Idaho	NA
7	Arizona	159,100	7	Oregon	9.5	7	Nevada	NA
8	Utah	125,500	8	Washington	5.7	8	Oregon	NA
9	New Mexico	122,600	9	Arizona	5.6	9	Utah	NA
10	Nevada	59,100	10	Nevada	5.1	10	Washington	NA

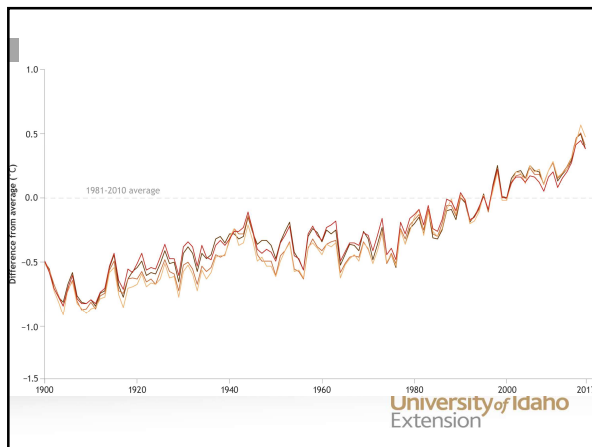
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WHY MORE WILDFIRE?

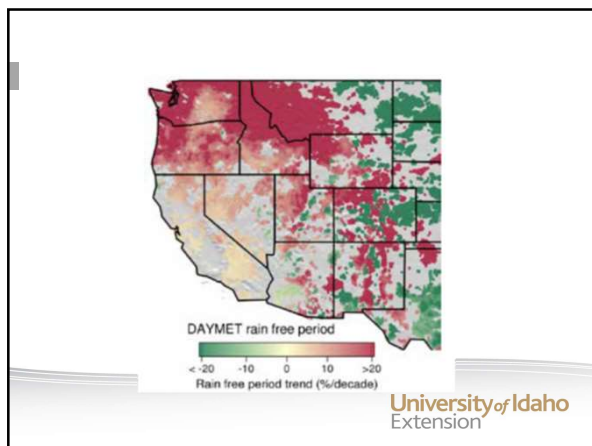
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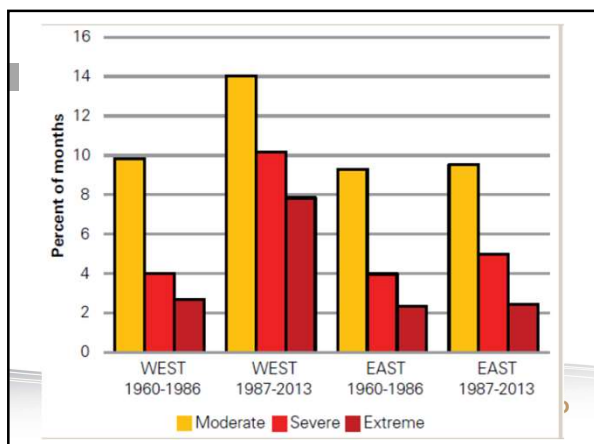
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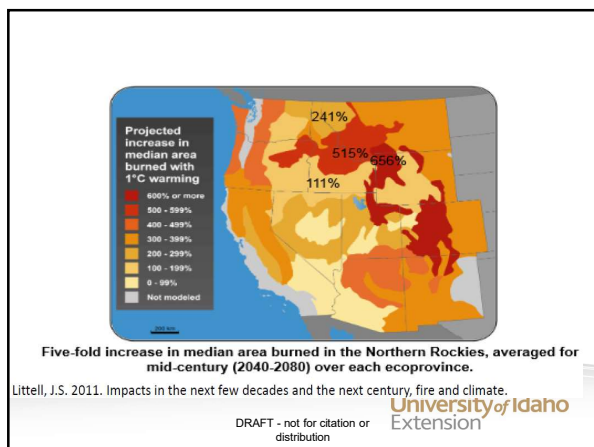
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MODELED EFFECTS OF FUTURE FOREST WILDFIRE CHARACTERISTICS

- Longer fire seasons
- Increased number of days with high fire danger
- Increased frequency of ignitions
- More frequent episodes of extreme fire behavior
- Increased frequency of large fires
- Increased area burned


[from Bollenbacher et al. 2014]



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**CHANGED FOREST CONDITIONS
PREDISPOSED TO INCREASED
WILDFIRE SEVERITY**




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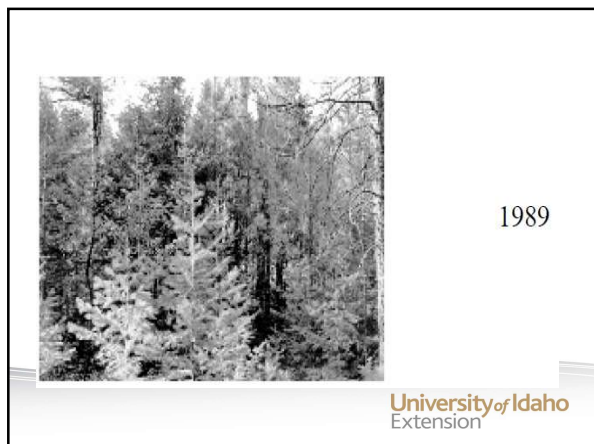
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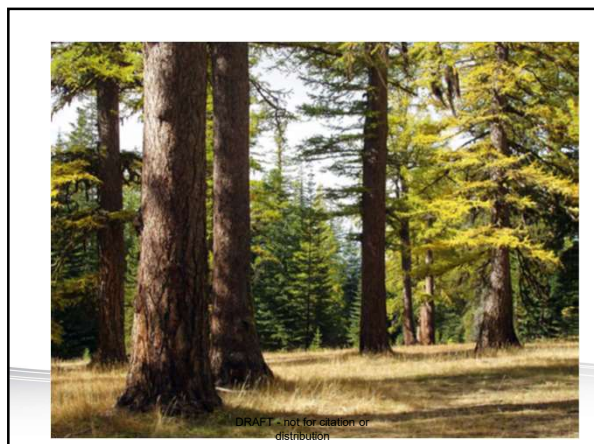
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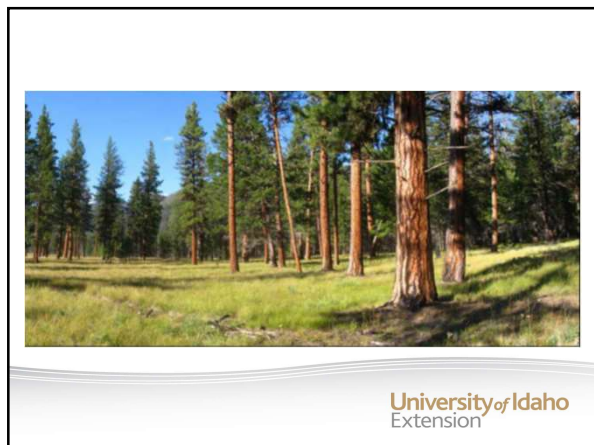
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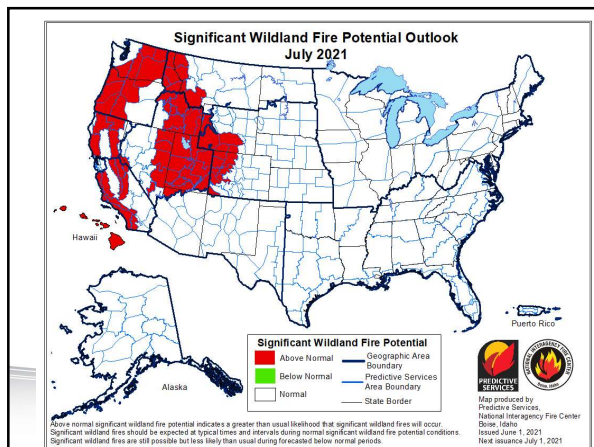
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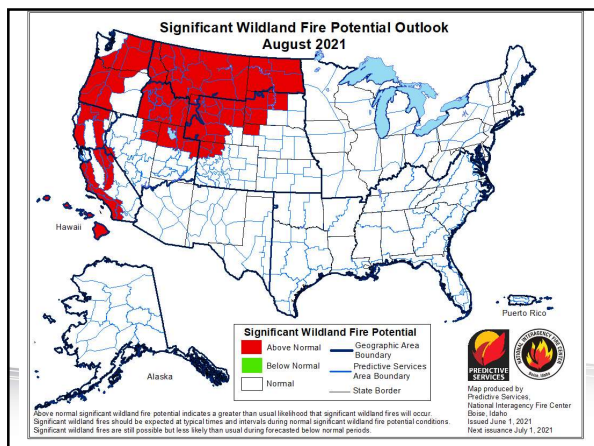
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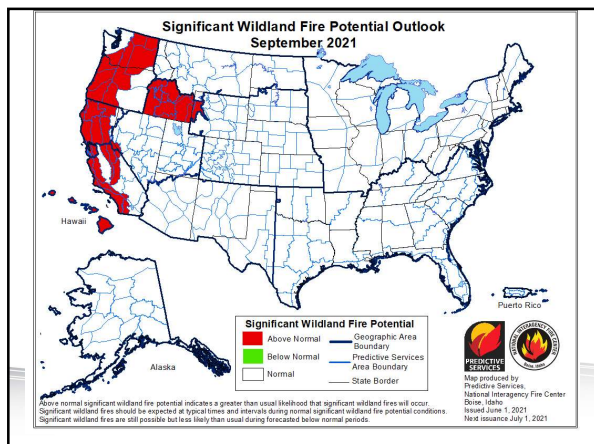
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So, what can you do to reduce your risk?

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Even though this home had non-combustible roofing, embers from the Hickman Fire ignited the attic days after the blaze passed through the community.

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Open or unscreened foundation vents provided embers access to a vulnerable pier and beam foundation.

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Combustible decks that aren't treated with fire-resistant paint or chemicals are more likely to catch fire.

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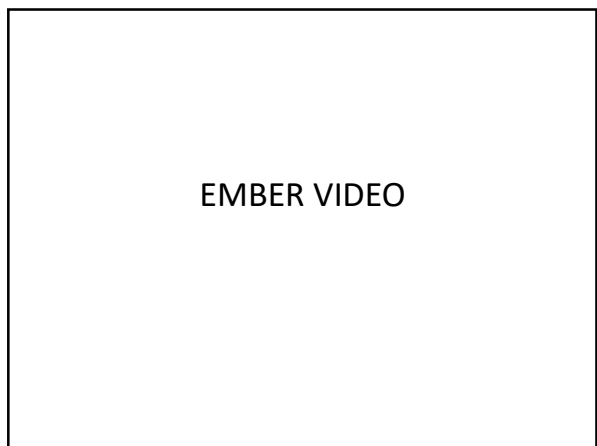
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Relatively fire-resistant homes can ignite during low-intensity wildfires if a path of combustible material, such as stairs or support beams, leads the fire up to the home.

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A combustible fence served as a pathway, leading fire right up to this modular home on the Willow Creek South Complex.

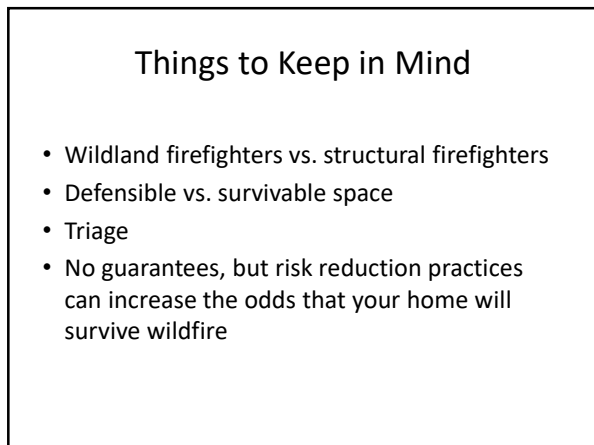
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