

# Fire Forward and the Good Fire Alliance

May 16th, 2019



AUDUBON CANYON RANCH

## **FIRE FORWARD**

Building Ecosystem Resilience Together

Jared Childress, Prescribed Fire Specialist

ACR's Fire Forward

October 19<sup>th</sup> 1991





HIGHWAY PATROL

October 8<sup>th</sup> 2017



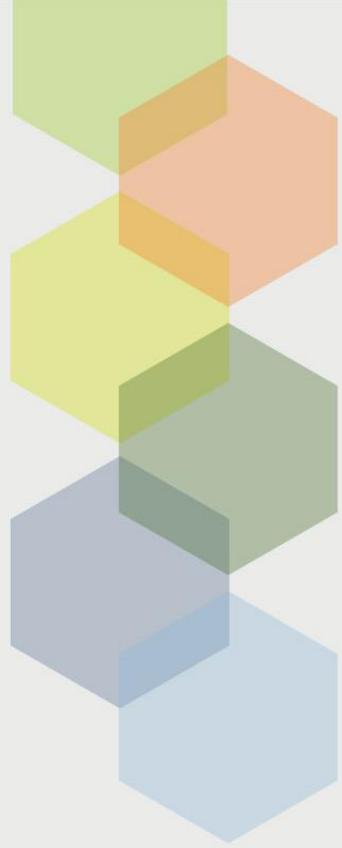
# Neighbors Coming Together To Do The Work



# Prescribed Herivory a.k.a. Mobile Goat Strike Force

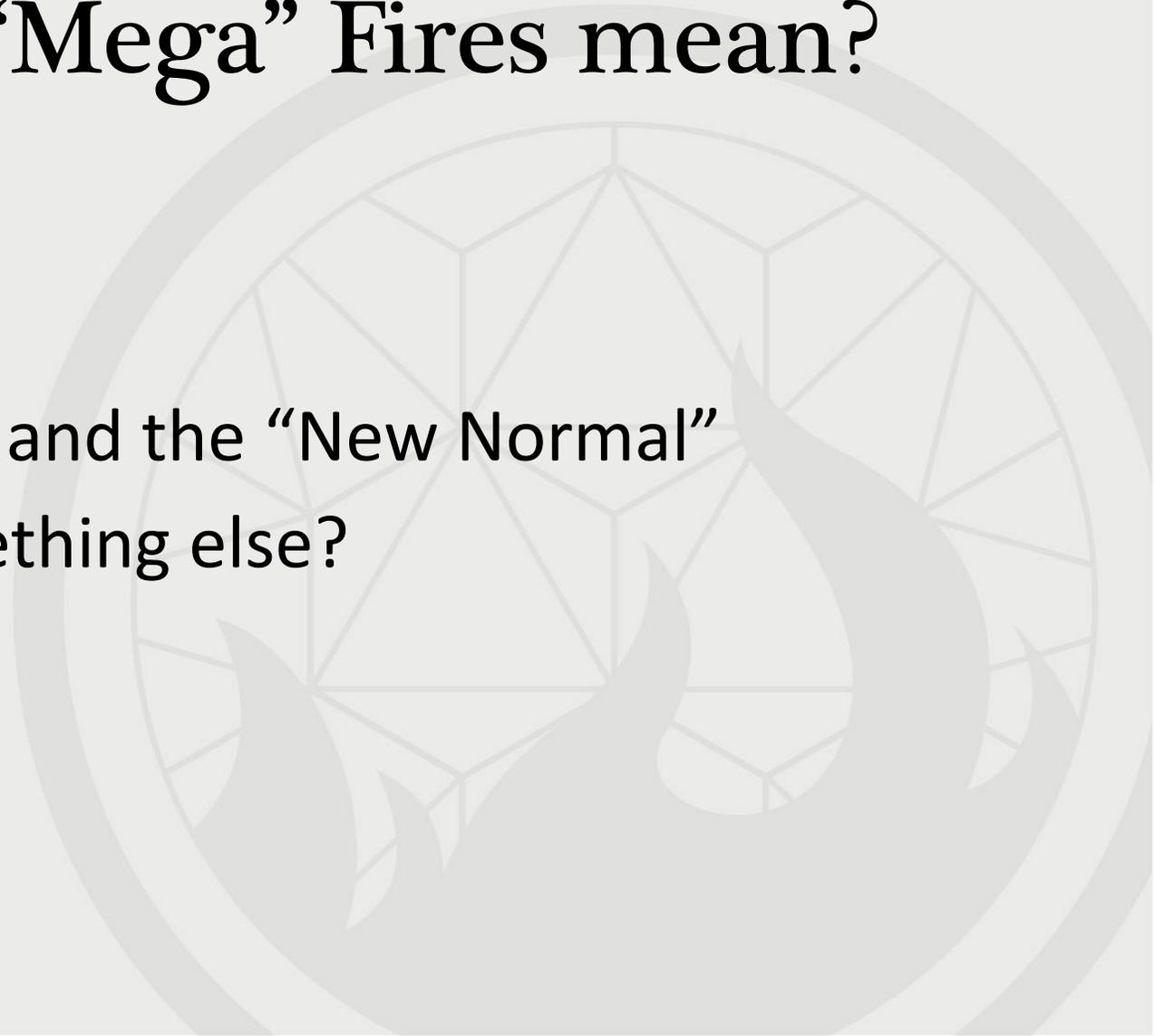


Community Run Livestock to maintain cleared areas



# What do these “Mega” Fires mean?

Is it Climate Change and the “New Normal”  
Or something else?

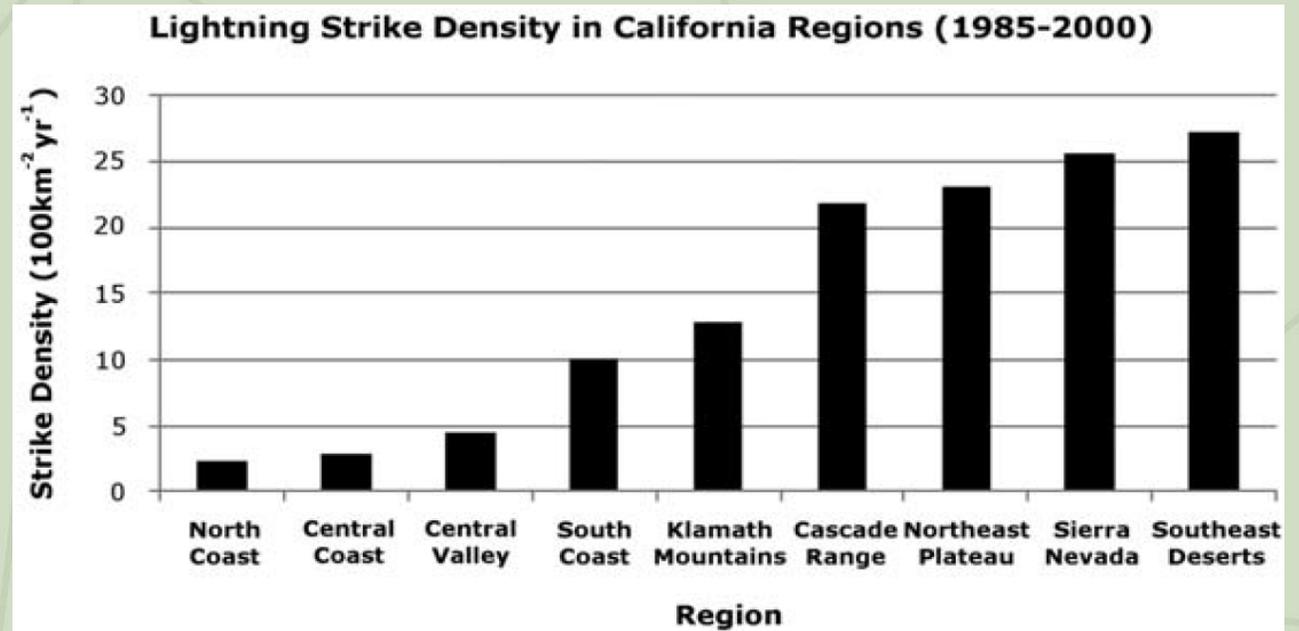
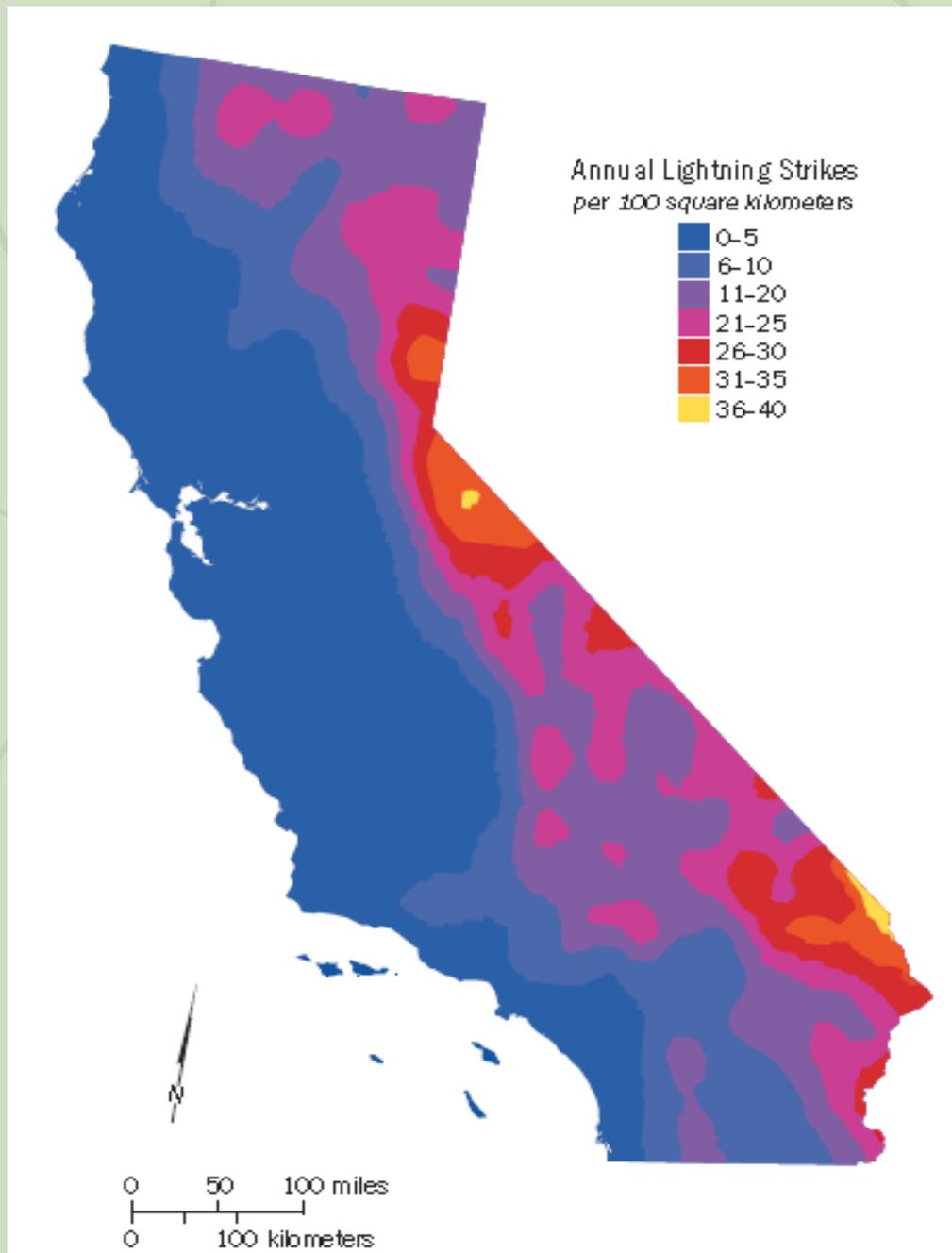


# A history of fire

Prehistoric fire area and emissions from California's forests, woodlands, shrublands, and grasslands

Stephens et al. 2007. *Forest Ecology and Management*, 251(3), 205-216.

**“Approximately 1.8 million ha burned annually in California prehistorically (pre 1800).** Our estimate of prehistoric annual area burned in California is 88% of the total annual wildfire area in the entire US during a decade (1994–2004) characterized as “extreme” regarding wildfires. The idea that US wildfire area of approximately two million ha annually is extreme is certainly a 20th or 21st century perspective. Skies were likely smoky much of the summer and fall in California during the prehistoric period. Increasing the spatial extent of fire in California is an important management objective.”



Cuthrell, Rob Q., et al. "A land of fire: Anthropogenic burning on the central coast of California." *Contemporary issues in California archaeology* (2012): 153-172.

“Impacts of Native American burning [were] highest near larger population centers in Coastal California and the Central Valley where lighting ignitions were rare (Keeley, 1982, 2002, 2005; Stephens and Libby, 2005).”

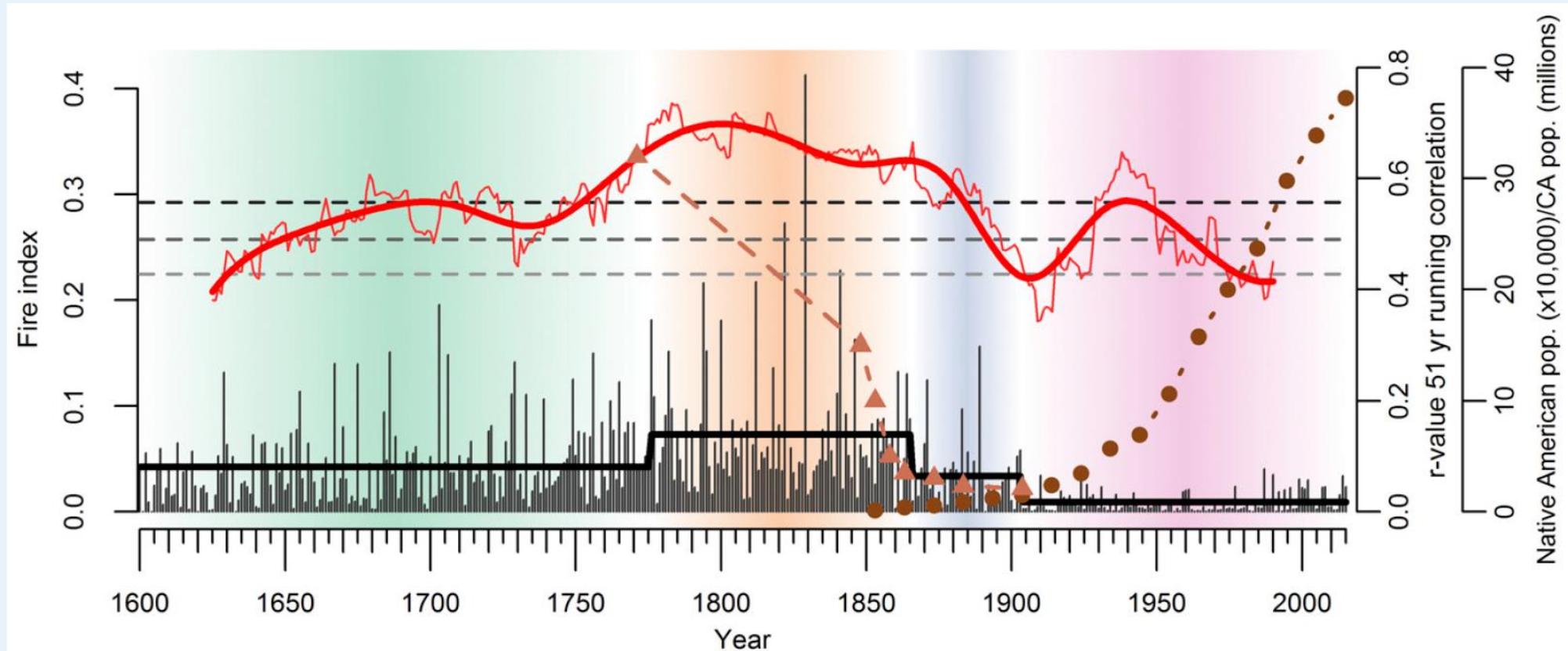


Fig. 3. Variation in strength of fire–moisture (60) relationships (i.e., PDSI) and population size of Native Americans (16) (triangle) and others (19) (circles) in California. The fire regime periods are indicated by shading as in Fig. 2. The  $r$ -values are 51-y running Pearson product-moment correlation coefficients of PDSI (inverted for presentation) and fire index is plotted on the 26th year of the window. Statistical significance ( $P < 0.05$ ,  $P < 0.01$ ,  $P < 0.001$ ) is shown by increasingly dark dashed lines.

(Taylor et al. 2016. Sociological transitions trigger fire regime shifts and modulate fire)

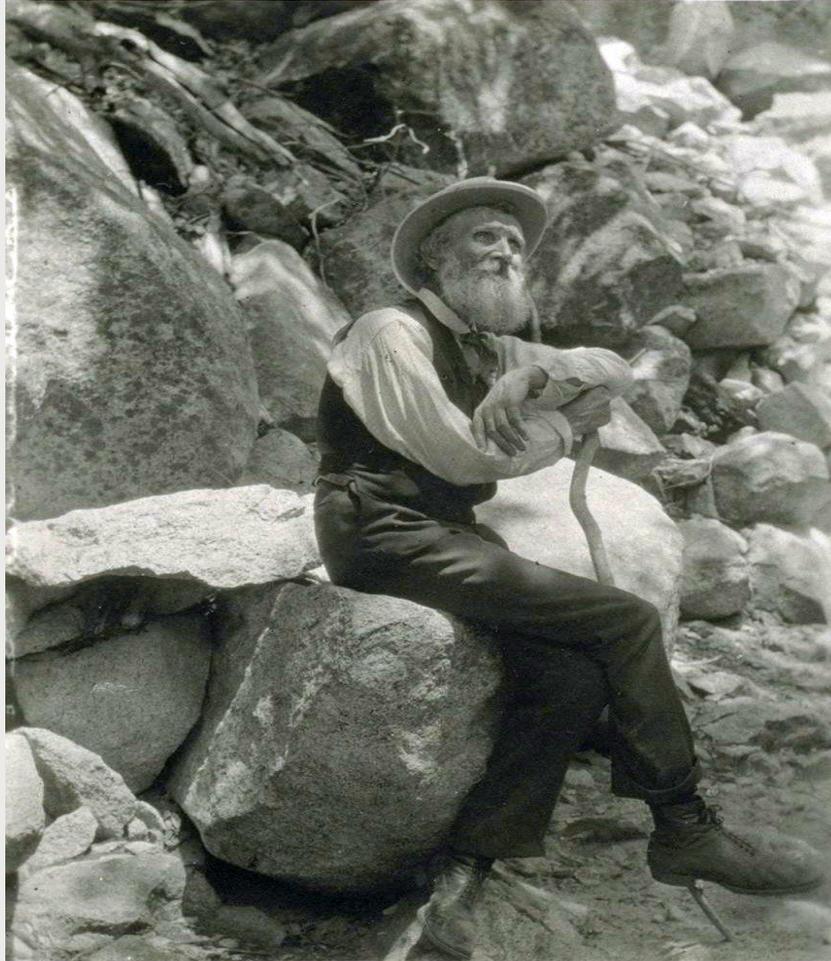
## Fire Return Intervals (FRI) for Regionally Present Communities

Plant Community	Median FRI	High FRI
Black Oak	2	8
Oak Woodlands	2	11
Fescue Oatgrass	3	8
Coastal Sagebrush/Woodland	5	20
Redwood	10	30
Mixed Evergreen	10	30
Riparian Corridors	13	47
Coastal Sagebrush	20	40
Chaparral	30	70

(Taylor and Skinner 2003, Skinner and Chang 1996, Everett 2008, Stephens et al 2007 and many more)

# John Muir and early environmentalism.

## A product of colonization.



First Yosemite trip: 1868  
Mariposa Battalion: 1850

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sacr

conservation in action





## Bouverie 2017 Planned Burn Units and Vicinity

### Legend

-  View Trail Unit
-  Upper Pasture Unit
-  Dirt Road/Trail
-  Bouverie Preserve Boundary

0 0.05 0.1 0.2 Miles

0 120 240 480 Yards







# Nuns Fire











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# FIRE FORWARD

Building Ecosystem Resiliency Together

# Fire Forward regional program:

## ▶ Organize Community

Teaming up with private landowners, public agencies, tribes and conservation partners around a shared purpose of effective fuel management.

## ▶ Develop Capacity

Building our region's capacity to accomplish this work through prescribed fire training and equipment sharing.

## ▶ Implementation

Working with partners to implement ecologically sound fire and fuels treatments on ACR preserves and partners' lands.



A group of approximately 20-25 people are seated in a circle in a room, engaged in a community organizing session. The room has a curved wall on the left with large windows covered by curtains. In the background, there is a whiteboard and a projector screen. The lighting is dim, with circular recessed lights on the ceiling. The text "Community Organizing" is overlaid in the center of the image.

# Community Organizing

Teaming up with private landowners, public agencies, tribes and conservation partners around a shared purpose of effective fuel management

# The Good Fire Alliance

Cooperative Burning

Grazing for fuel reduction

Thinning and  
shaded fuel breaks



# **Bay Area Prescribed Fire Council's Spring Meeting 2019**



**Conference Thursday May 2nd**

**Field tour Friday May 3rd**

**Morgan Hill, CA.**

**RSVP to [Jared.childress@egret.org](mailto:Jared.childress@egret.org)**

# Bay Area Prescribed Fire Council (B.A.Rx.F)

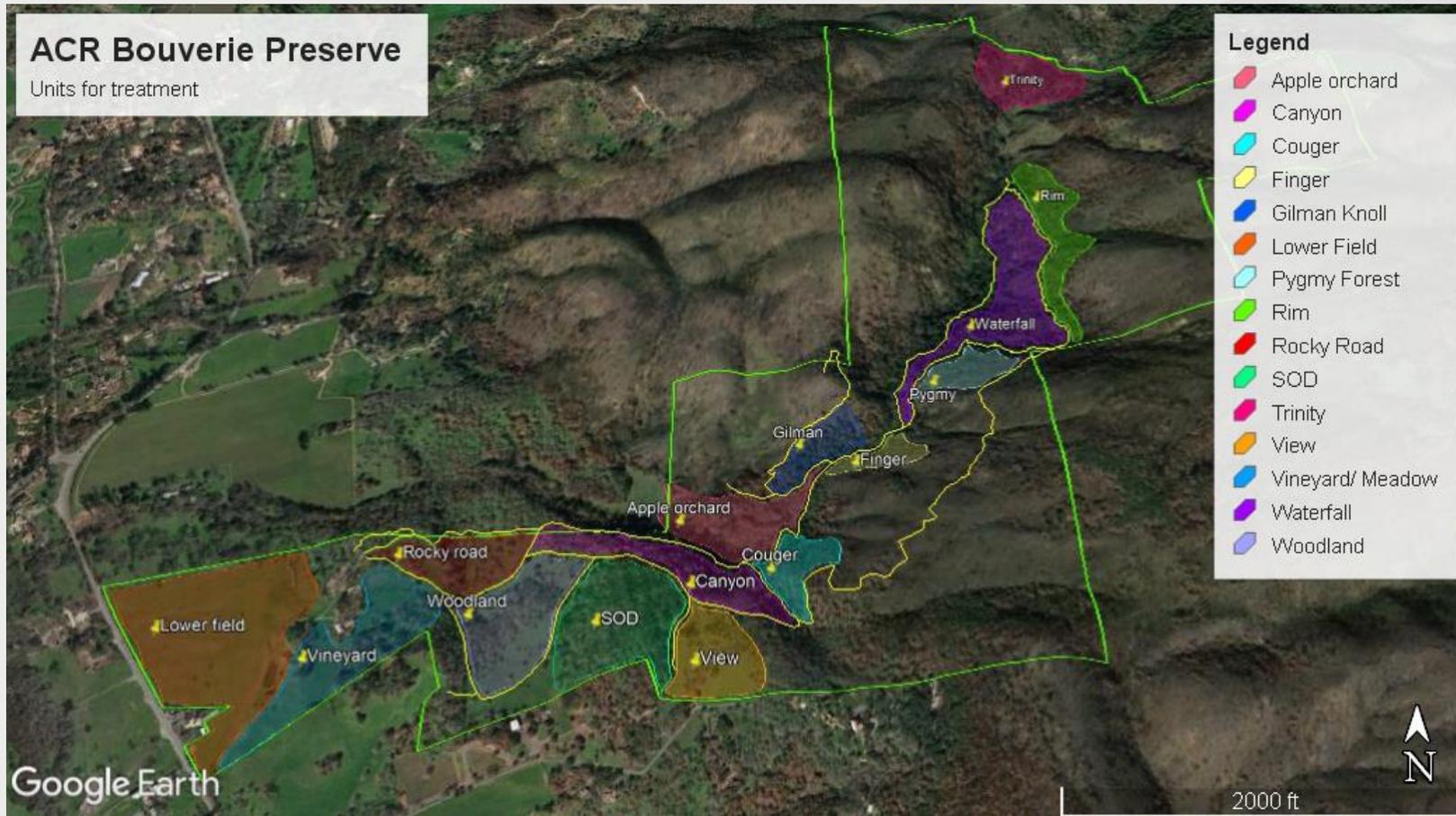


Cal Fire  
Sonoma County Parks  
UC Berkeley  
Amah Mutsun Tribe  
State Parks  
Sonoma Ecology Center  
Marin County Fire  
SF PUC  
Jenner Headlands Preserve  
EBMUD  
UC Cooperative Extension  
Marin Water  
Golden Gate NP Conservancy  
Pepperwood  
Moraga Orinda Fire Department  
EB Parks  
Mid-Pen Open Space  
CA Fire Science Consortium  
Bay Area Air Quality-  
Management District



# Sonoma Valley Wildlands Collaborative

ACR, Sonoma Land Trust, Sonoma County Parks, State Parks, Sonoma Mountain Foundation, Ag. And Open Space



18,000 acre envelope  
2019 Cal Fire Grant: \$1,055,575

A group of firefighters in yellow gear are gathered around a yellow fire truck in a field. A man in a grey shirt is addressing them. The scene is outdoors with trees in the background.

# Capacity Development

Building our region's capacity to accomplish this work through prescribed fire training and equipment sharing

# Training and Workshops

**Basic Wildland  
Fire Fighter 2 Training  
(FFT2)  
For Prescribed Fire Practitioners**

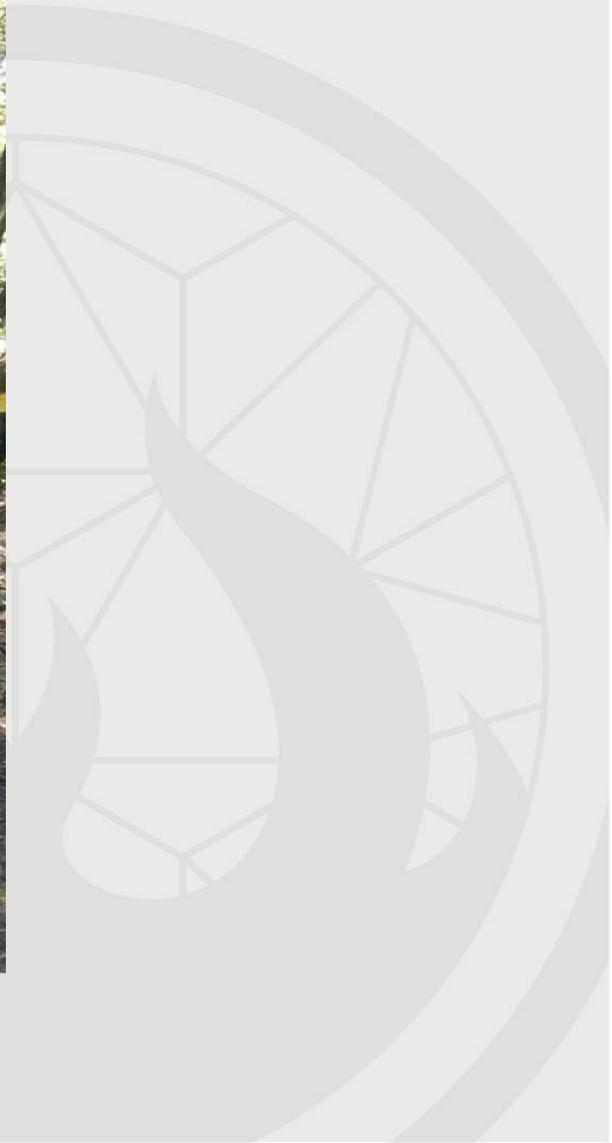
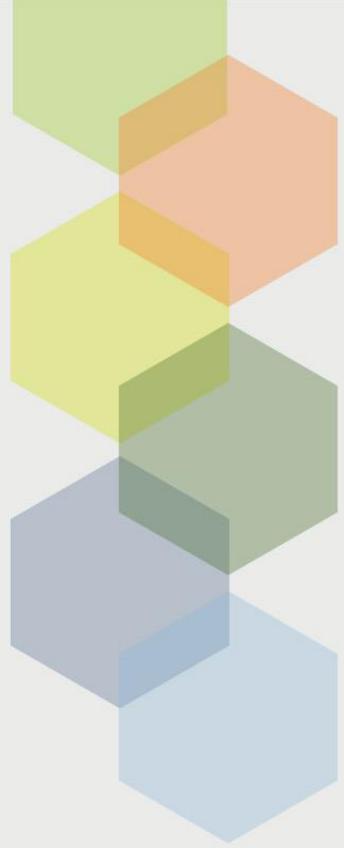
**April 27th and 28th**  
Food and lodging provided  
\$120.00  
(Scholarships available)

**Martin Griffin Preserve  
Stinson Beach,  
Marin County**

Online pre-course work necessary  
Register by April 1st at:  
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wildland-fire-fighter-2-training-tickets-54552156970>

**acr**  
conservation in action

<h2>Wildfire Fuel Break</h2> <p><b>Workshop</b> hosted by The Wildlands Conservancy and Audubon Canyon Ranch</p>		
<p><b>Before</b></p>	<p>From dense thicket</p> <p>➔</p> <p>To reduced fire hazard</p>	<p><b>After</b></p>
<p>Take a tour of a Shaded Fuel Break, do some hands on work and learn about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•How Shaded Fuel Breaks (aka. forested fire break) can help reduce fuel loads and provide a safer area for firefighters to make a stand against a wildfire</li> <li>•How to plan and implement a Shaded Fuel Break to help protect your home and forestland</li> <li>•The various methods that can be used to establish a Shaded Fuel Break and the associated costs</li> <li>•How local agencies and organizations can help you plan, cost-share, and implement your Shaded Fuel Break</li> <li>•Examples of how to maintain your Shaded Fuel Break once established (i.e.. Prescribed fire)</li> </ul>		<p><b>Saturday May 4th</b> <b>10am-3pm</b></p> <p><b>Free for Landowners and Land Managers</b></p> <p>At The Wildlands Conservancy's Jenner Headlands Preserve</p> <p><b>R.S.V.P. at:</b></p>
<p>In collaboration with:</p>		<p>For more information, contact: Jared.Childress@egret.org</p> <p>Lunch will be provided to workshop participants</p>



# Truck and Fire Trailer/ Cache



A photograph of a forest fire. In the foreground, two firefighters in yellow gear and hard hats are visible on the left. The ground is covered in flames and smoke. The background is filled with tall, thin trees, some of which are partially obscured by the smoke and fire. The sky is a pale blue-grey color.

# Implantation

Working with partners to implement ecologically sound fire and fuels treatments on ACR preserves and partners' lands

# Cooperative Rx Burning on



ACR Lands  
Private Lands  
Partner Organizations

# Thinning



# Before and After Monitoring



# How do these treatments relate to Climate Change?



Forest resilience

# Thank You!

Fire Forward is funded in part by:

- ▶ **Farley Family Charitable Foundation**
- ▶ **Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria**
- ▶ **California Forest Improvement Program**
- ▶ **Cal Fire**

and many generous members and supporters of ACR.

We welcome your involvement

- ▶ **Become an ACR member**
- ▶ **Join the Good Fire Alliance**
- ▶ **Share @AudubonCanyonRanch**
- ▶ **Jared.Childress@egret.org**

**LEARN MORE > [www.egret.org](http://www.egret.org)**

