

2009 FIRE SUMMARY

CAL FIRE's firefighters, fire engines and aircraft respond to over 5,700 wildland fires and answer nearly 210,000 calls for other emergencies each year. During 2009, CAL FIRE responded to 4,657 wildfires within its Direct Protection Area. This represents a decrease of 24 percent below last year and 19 percent below the five year average. These fires burned 80,990 acres which is 78 percent below last year and 67 percent below the five year average.

2009 marked the third year of a drought for California. The state saw minimal precipitation over the winter and the grasses and brush began to dry out earlier than usual.

On May 5, 2009, Governor Schwarzenegger signed an Executive Order that bolstered the State's firefighting force. Within hours of the signing of the Executive Order, a wildfire broke out in Santa Barbara County. Within days, the fire had moved into residential neighborhoods in the City of Santa Barbara and began to consume homes. When the fire was finally contained, 8,733 acres were charred and 80 homes and 80 additional structures were destroyed.

The top five fires in acreage that burned in California

FIRE	COUNTY	START DATE	ACRES BURNED	FIRE CAUSE	STRUCTURES DESTROYED
Station	Los Angeles	08/26/09	160,577	Arson	209
La Brea	Santa Barbara	08/08/09	91,622	Campfire	2
Guiberson	Ventura	09/22/09	17,500	Spontaneous Combustion	0
Corral	San Joaquin	08/13/09	12,200	Other	2
Jesusita	Santa Barbara	05/05/09	8,733	Equipment	160

2009 FIRE SUMMARY (CONTINUED)

DIRECT PROTECTION AREA OF:	WILDFIRES	ACRES BURNED
CAL FIRE -----	2,858	75,960
CAL FIRE Schedule A-----	1,799	5,030
United States Forest Service-----	1,390	314,800
Contract Counties-----	533	31,071
US Bureau of Land Management-----	101	2,175
National Park Service-----	82	14,996
Bureau of Indian Affairs-----	217	5,164
US Fish and Wildlife Service-----	20	50
Military—DDQ-----	10	2,723
2009 TOTAL	7,010	451,969
5-YEAR AVERAGE (2004-2008) ALL AGENCIES	6,694	914,734
5-YEAR AVERAGE CAL FIRE (2004-2008) INCLUDES SCHEDULE A	5,759	250,537