

## 2016 STATEWIDE FIRE SUMMARY

During 2016, local, state, federal, and tribal firefighting agencies responded to 6,954 wildland fires that burned 669,534 acres across the entire state of California. CAL FIRE, through state funded and its local government contracts, reported 5,322 wildfire incidents that burned 250,194 acres.

In addition to the numbers of above, CAL FIRE responds to upwards of 1,000 additional incidents that are initially dispatched as wildfires, but later turn out to be false alarms or other types of fires.

For all firefighting agencies throughout California, the 5-year average for ignitions dropped slightly by 2%, while acres burned increased by 13%. CAL FIRE's 5-year average, including state funded and local government contracts, indicate that reported ignitions decreased less than 1%, yet acreage burned increased by almost 20%. These numbers support the growing intensity and severity of wildfire activity across the state.

**Table 1. Protection Areas by Wildfire Agency—Fires and Acres**

Direct Protection Area	Fires	Acres Burned
CAL FIRE – (State Responsibility)	2,816	244,556
CAL FIRE – (Local Government Contracts)	2,506	5,638
Contract Counties	417	6,440
United States Forest Service	889	356,951
Bureau of Land Management	109	30,285
National Park Service	79	1,152
Bureau of Indian Affairs	126	6,116
United States Fish and Wildlife Service	12	406
Military	5	17,990
<b>2016 Total</b>	<b>6,954</b>	<b>669,534</b>
<b>5 Year Average (2012-2016) All Agencies</b>	<b>7,681</b>	<b>721,367</b>
<b>5 Year Average CAL FIRE (2012-2016) Includes Local Govt. Contracts</b>	<b>5,453</b>	<b>195,243</b>

Federal agencies provide their fire statistics as a courtesy to CAL FIRE.

**Table 2. The Top Five Fires for 2016 by Acreage Burned**

Fire Name	County	Start Date	Acres Burned	Fire Cause	Structures Destroyed
<b>Soberanes</b>	Monterey	07/22/16	132,127	Campfire	68
<b>Erskine</b>	Kern	06/23/16	48,019	Undetermined	286
<b>Chimney</b>	San Luis Obispo	08/13/16	46,235	Vehicle	70
<b>Sand</b>	Los Angeles	07/22/16	41,383	Undetermined	116
<b>Bluecut</b>	San Bernardino	08/16/16	36,274	Undetermined	321

Source: Redbook, Table 6, Large Fires 300 Acres and Greater - Other Agencies Direct Protection Areas.