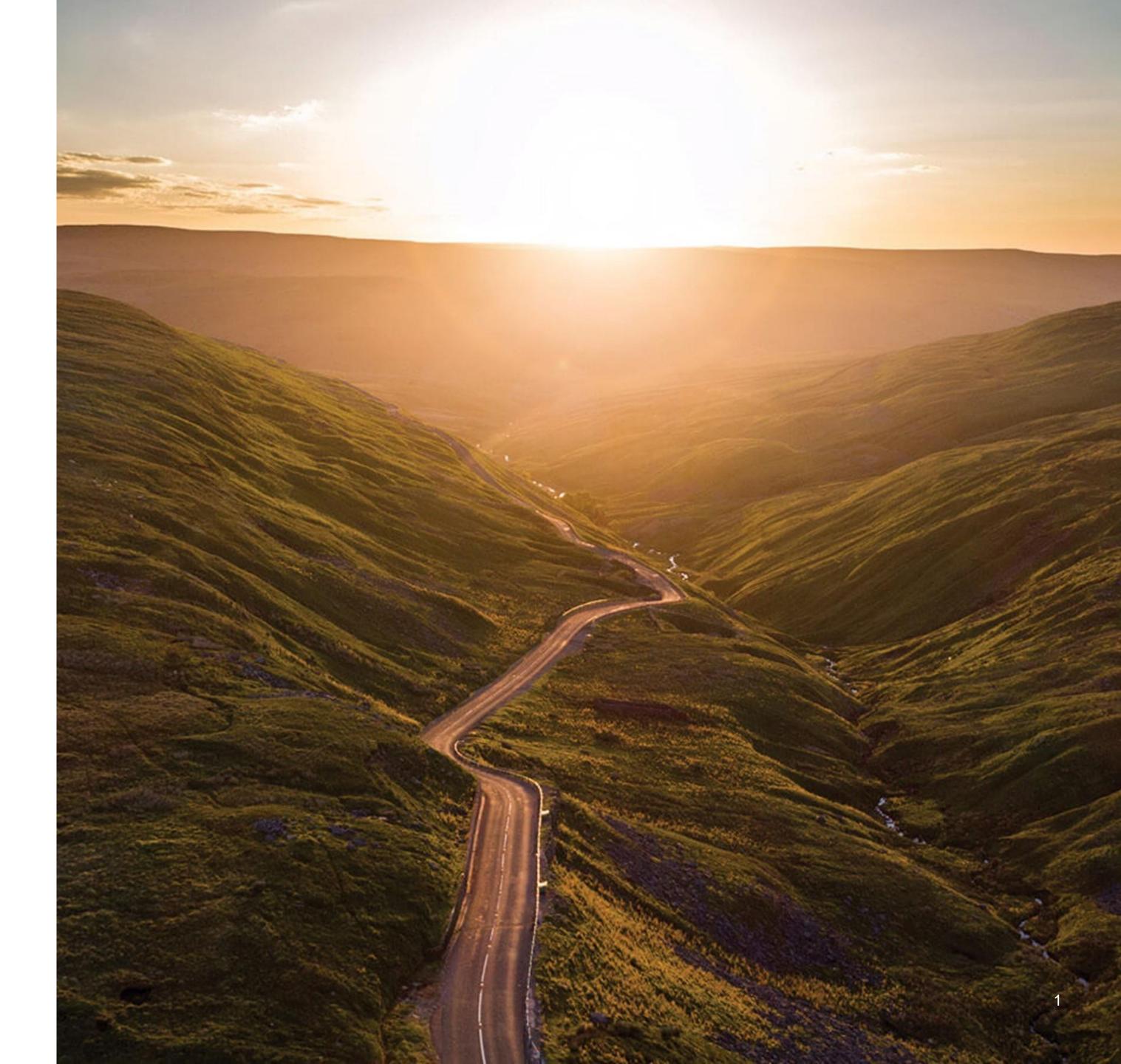
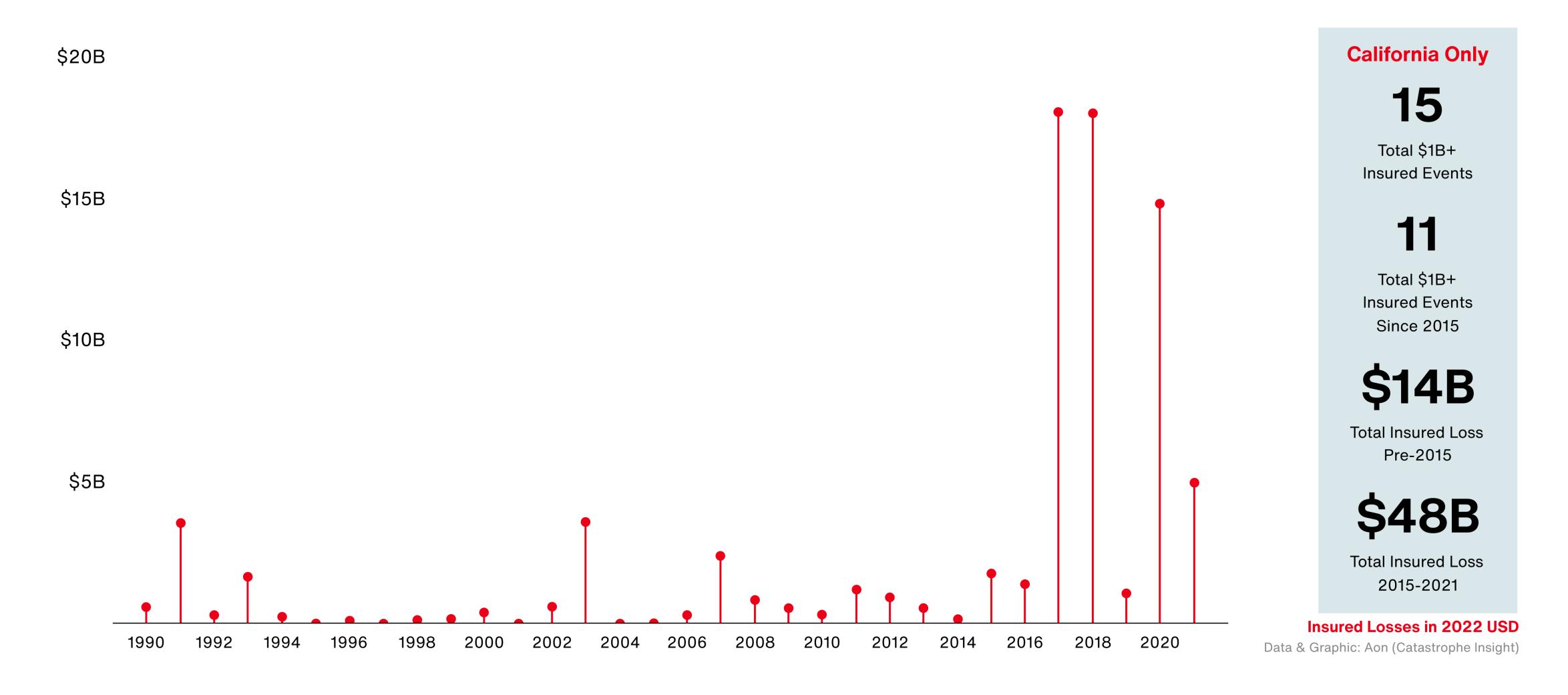


# U.S. Wildfire Risk: Insurance Perspective

June 2022

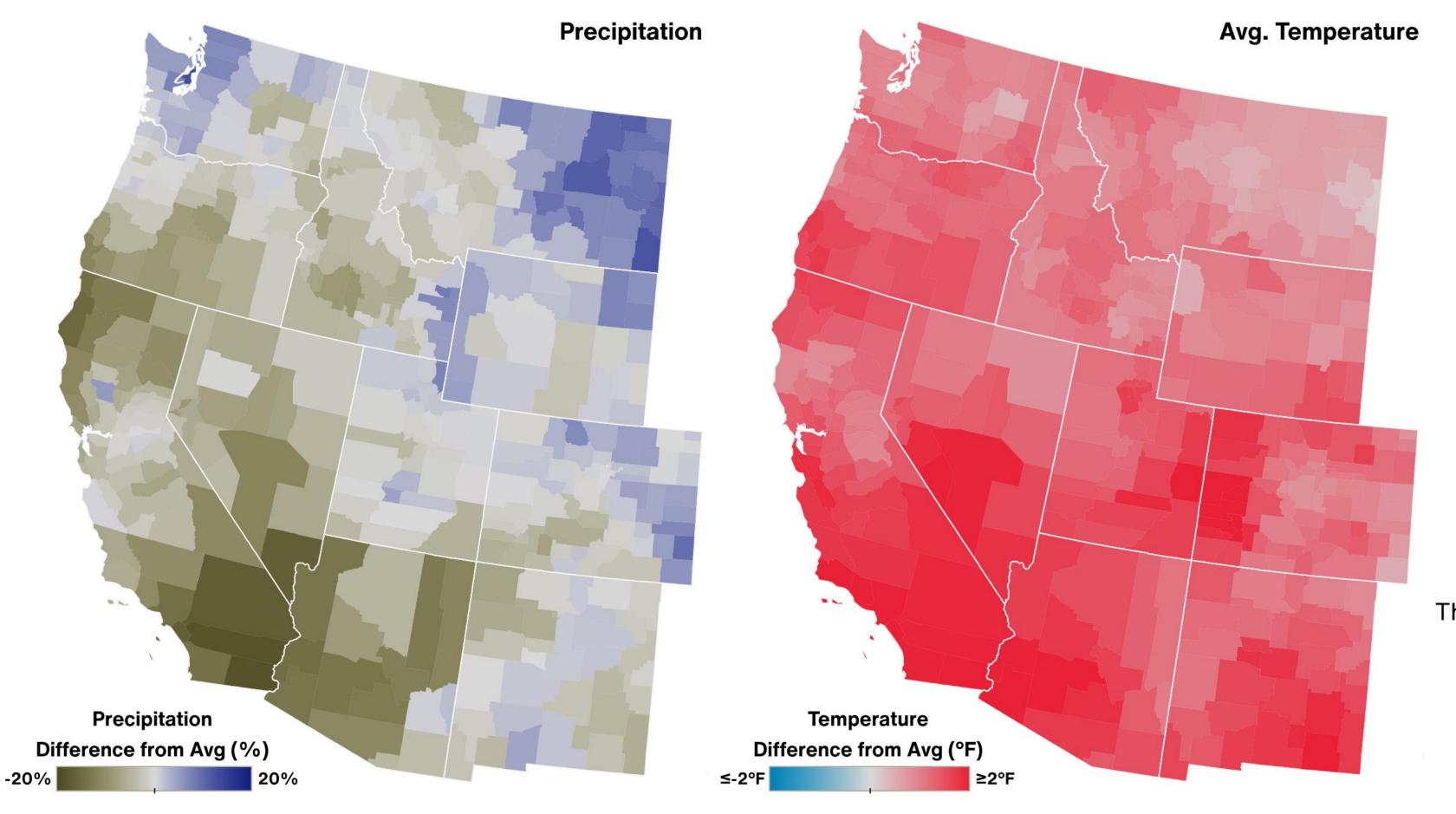


# State the Obvious: U.S. Insured Wildfire Losses are Increasing





# U.S. Wildfire Risk is Growing



# Western U.S. Fire Season Months

May to November

Climate Normal Comparison
1991-2020 vs 20th Century Avg

### What do the results mean?

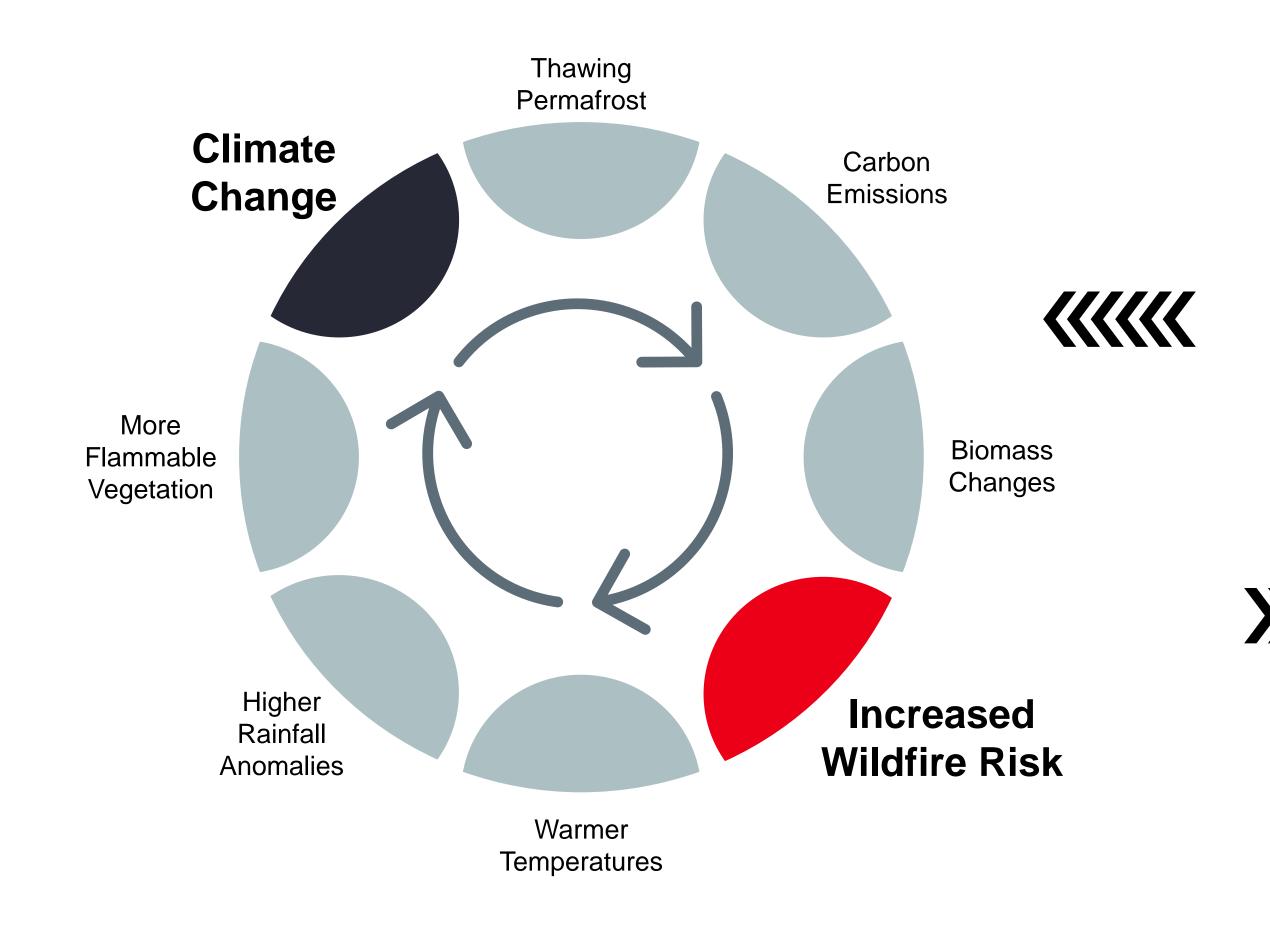
The combination of reduced precipitation during the standard "dry season" and hotter average temperatures is aiding in the intensification of drought events.

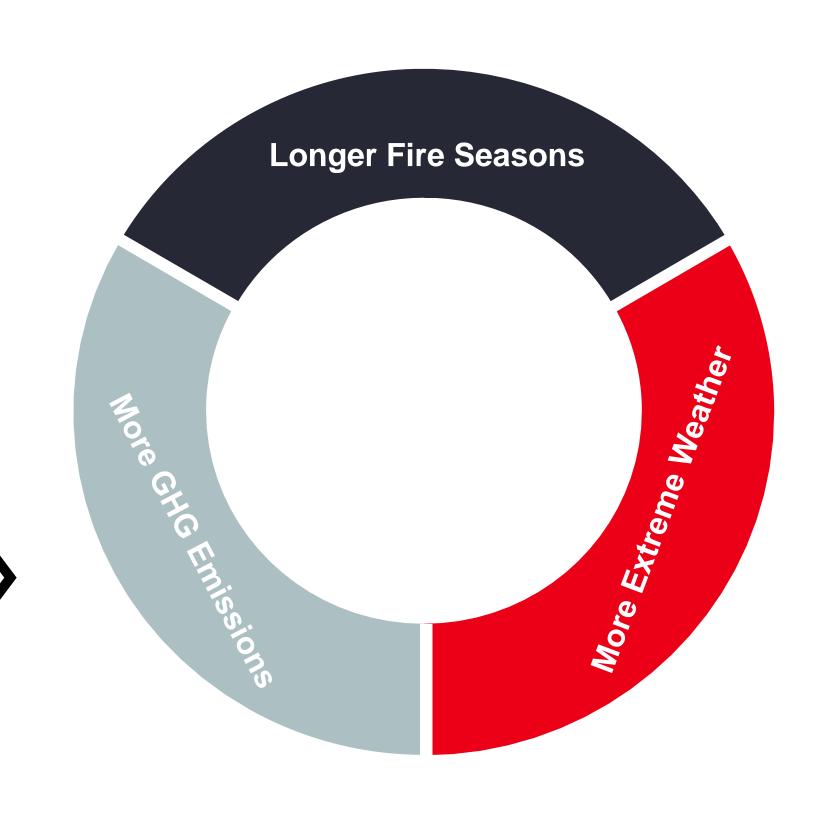
This has also been a factor in U.S. West wildfire seasons now regularly being extended by several weeks.

Data: NOAA (NCEI)
Graphic: Aon (Catastrophe Insight)



# Wildfire Risk as Part of the Climate Change Feedback Loop





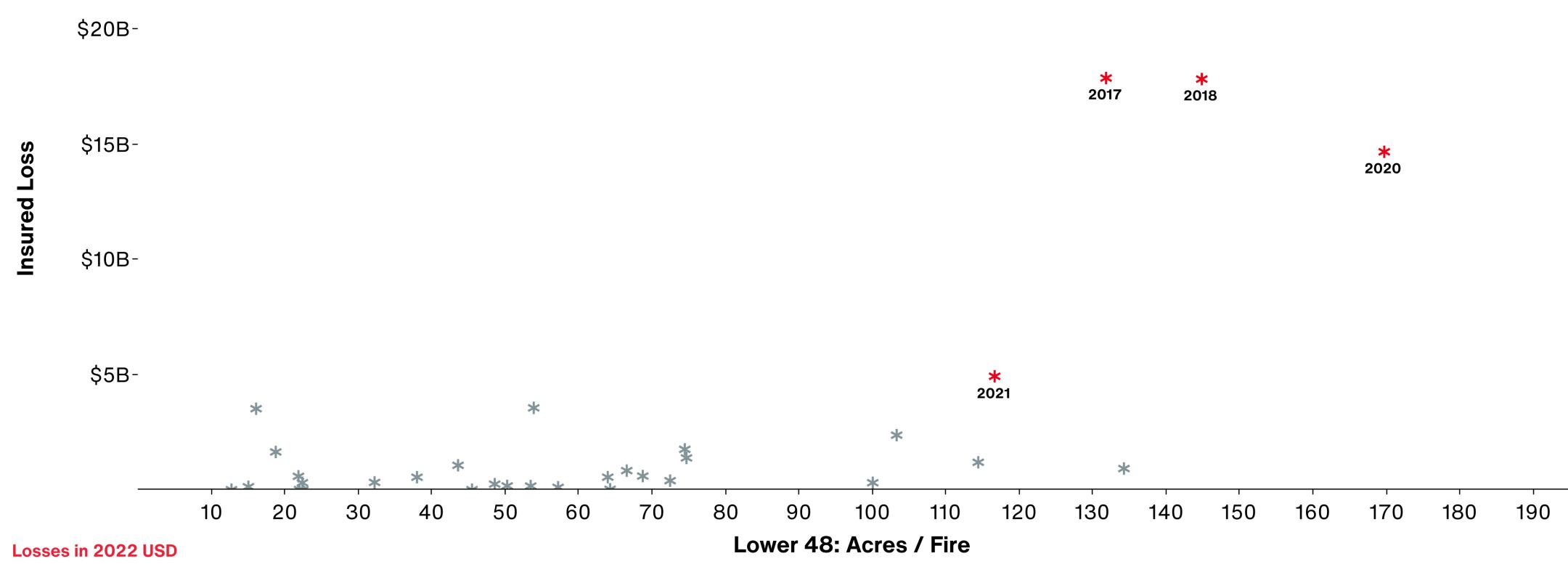
Based on work from the United Nations (2022)

https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/38372/wildfire\_RRA.pdf



# Larger Fires Correlate to Higher Losses

CONUS: Annual Wildfire Losses vs. Average Fire Size (1990-2021)

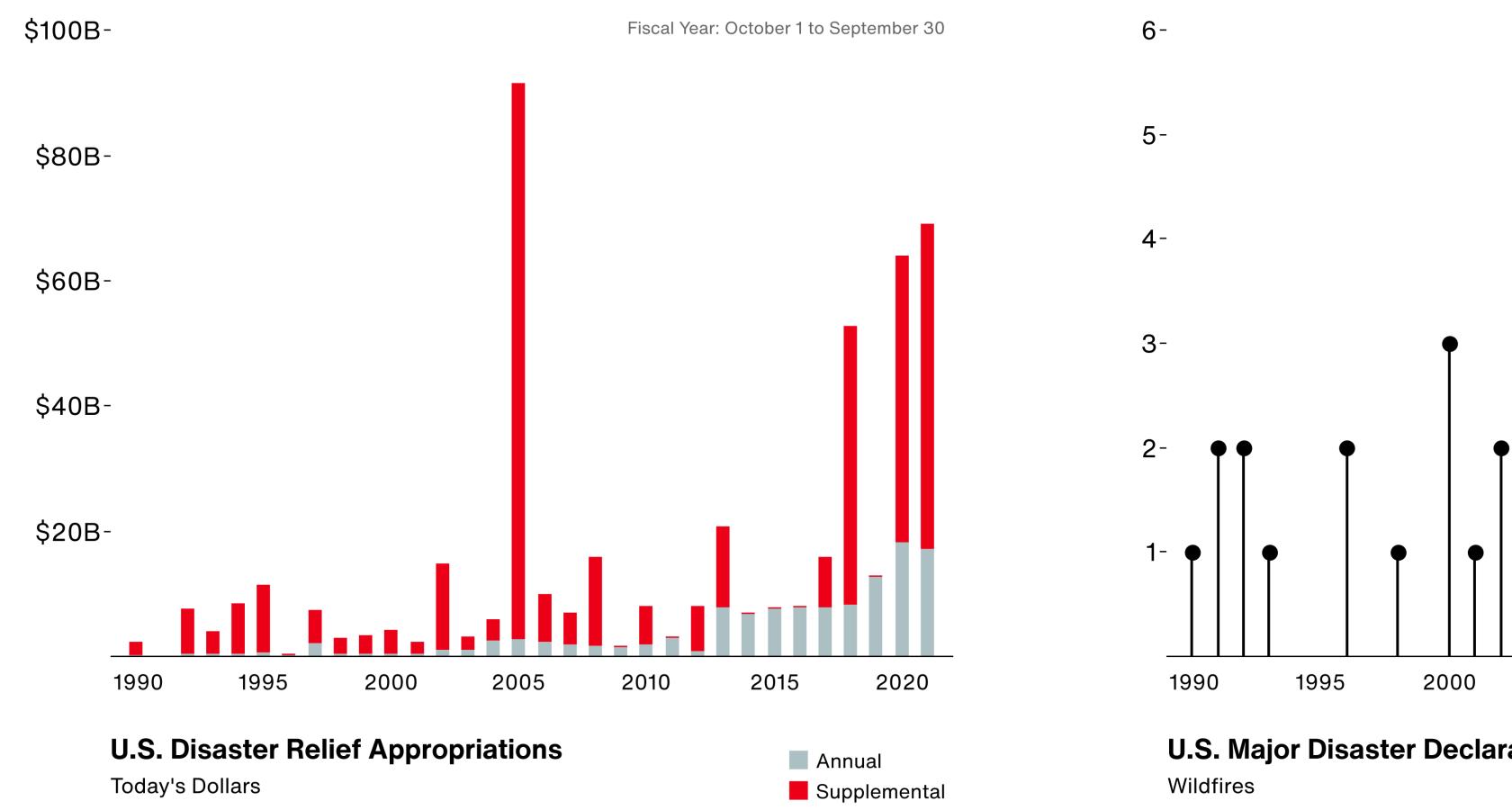


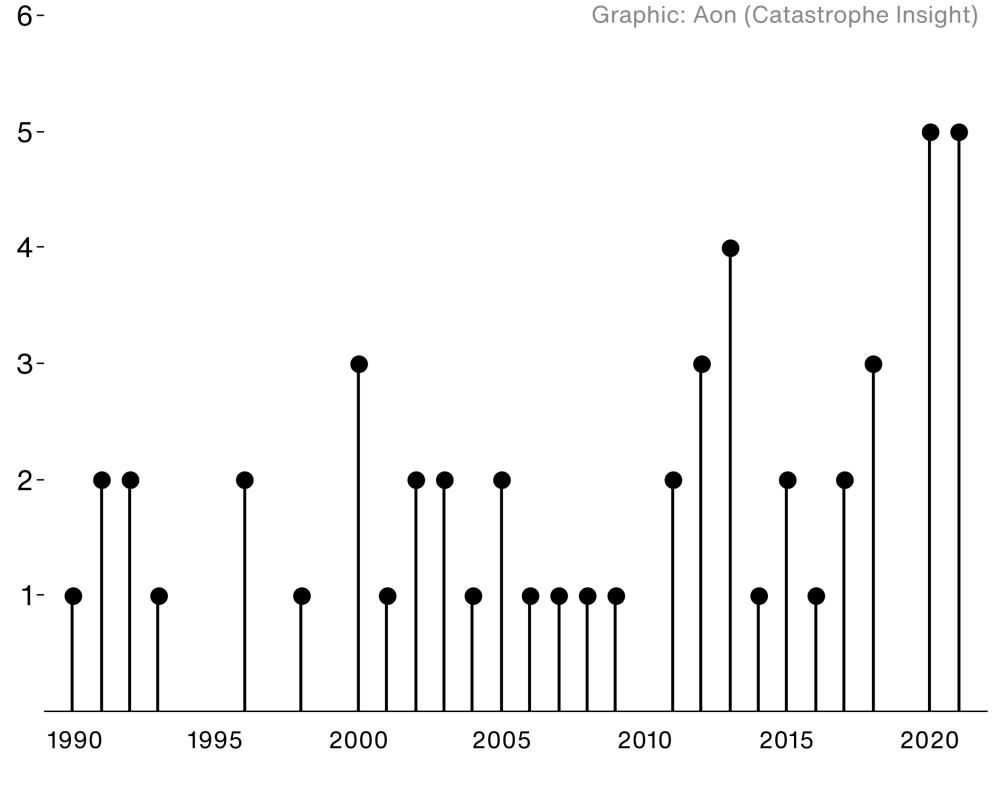
Fire Data: NIFC

Loss Data & Graphic: Aon (Catastrophe Insight)



## Federal Disaster Relief Funds & Wildfire Disaster Declarations





**U.S. Major Disaster Declarations** 



Data: FEMA

### Insurance & the Wildfire Peril



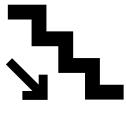
# Need to Properly Identify Risk

Strengthen the available computational tools, data, and utilize other analytics to find where the risk profile is evolving



# **Engage Public Sector Stakeholders**

Find a balance to ensure coverage opportunities for low or high-risk properties & encourage needed forest management funding



# **Bring Down the Protection Gap**

Portion of direct economic losses not covered by insurance can range from 20 to 50% per fire event

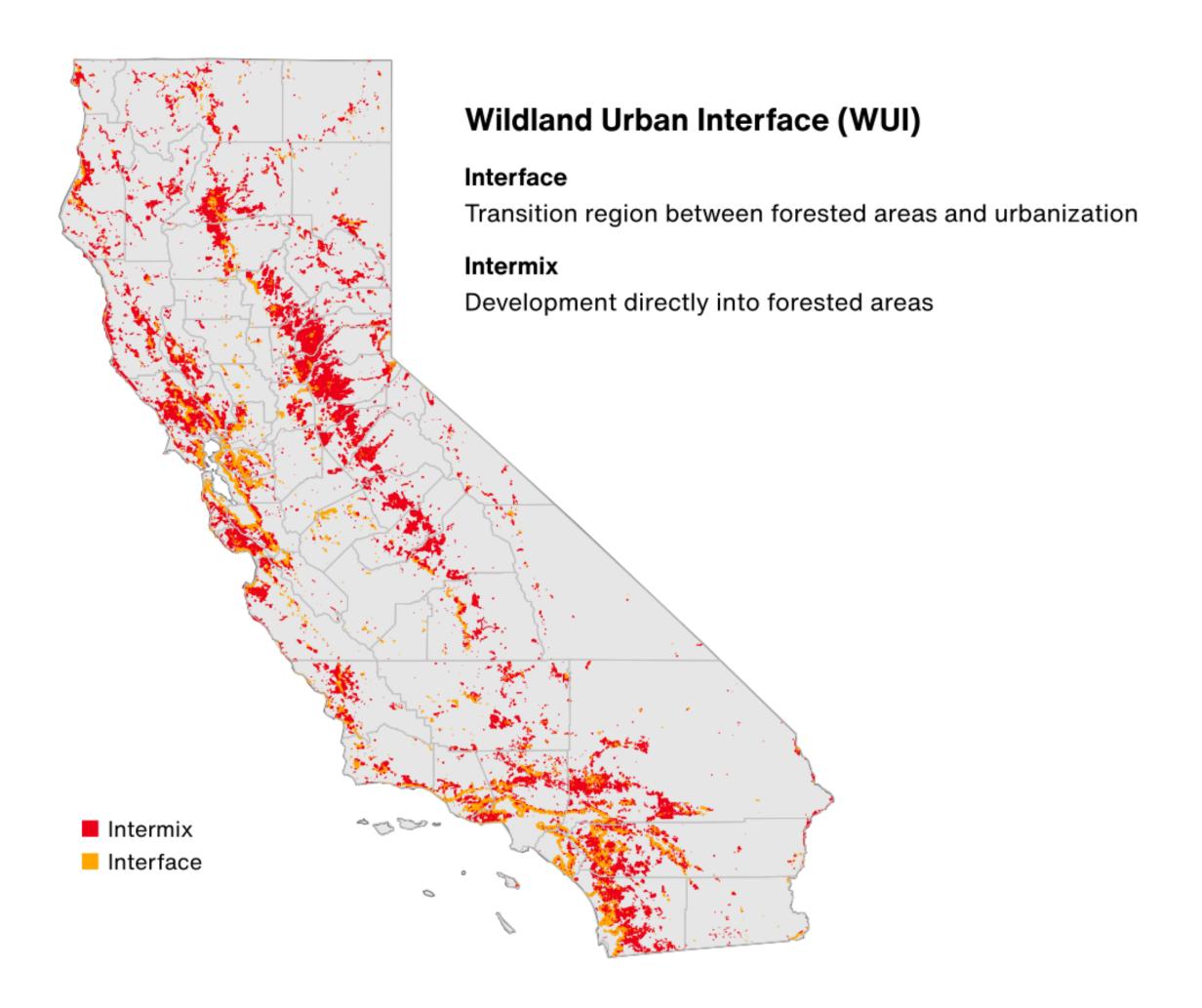


# Clearly Communicate the Risk

The public and private sectors need to better communicate current and future risk to residents



# **Example: California Fire Risk**



11M+

CA WUI Population

4.5M+

**CA WUI Housing Units** 

Continued trend of residents moving into high risk Interface or Intermix WUI areas to seek cheaper costs of living.



# Communicate & Understand the Totality of Hazard Risk

### **Hazard Behavior**

The type of effects derived from an individual event or series of events.

Climate influence is increasingly more pronounced with some perils.

### **Hazard Frequency**

How often an event or a type of an event can be expected. This is an important metric but only a limited portion of how risk should be viewed.

### **Hazard Location**

Where an event occurs ultimately will determine how much loss. The bigger the event affecting a larger population center will bring higher loss costs.

### **Hazard Readiness**

How well prepared a community is to withstand the intensity or frequency of various perils will determine how much damage occurs.



Event frequency matters. Event behavior matters even more. Event location and readiness matters most.

Prepare today to limit risk tomorrow.



# How the Private Sector is Moving Forward: Academic Collaborations

### **Private Sector / Academic Outreach**

The need for better collaboration between the private, public, and academic sectors has never been more important. Working together to find solutions.

### Placement into Modeled Solutions

Scientifically sound solutions can be directly implemented into a catastrophe model. A preferred approach beyond basic frequency adjustments.



# Direct Access to Emerging Research

Academic collaboration allows peer reviewed research or opportunities for new research ideas to be studied. Brings private sector perspective to untapped topics.

### **Higher Quality Results**

Opportunity to better account and explain complex uncertainties with climate change solutions. Allows for more actionable quantitative and qualitative results.



# Build Better. Build Smarter.

### Marshall Fire: Louisville, Colorado

Source: Boulder County, CO Emergency Management Graphic: Aon (Catastrophe Insight)





Source: https://revkin.bulletin.com/when-wildfire-comes-to-town-amid-the-marshall-fire-s-urban-ashes-hints-of-a-less-combustible-future



# We cannot fully eliminate risk, but we can take meaningful steps to minimize it.

