



Wildfire Resources

SPLASH ALERT

ACWA JPIA Risk Control and Employee Benefits Departments

On August 18, 2020, Governor Newsom [declared](#) a Statewide Emergency due to extreme weather conditions and wildland fires. California's emergency readiness for any disaster is unparalleled; however, the number, size, and scope of multiple statewide incidents, including the COVID-19 pandemic, is challenging to all aspects of our emergency response and subsequent recovery.

To assist our members with wildfire resilience, the **JPIA's Risk Management Department** added **Wildfire Prevention** as a loss reduction menu to our Commitment to Excellence (C2E) Program. Members can find C2E resilience strategies, best practices and resources to mitigate, prepare, respond and recover from a wildfire or wildland urban interface fires below.

Takeaway: Plan, Know, Act.

Visit [Cal Fire's Ready for Wildfire webpage](#).

The **JPIA's Employee Benefits Department** recently shared that Anthem Blue Cross medical plans are extending additional benefits to participants who have been impacted by wildfires or extreme heat. Benefits include emergency prescription refills and replacement of medical equipment and supplies. Additionally, MHN published a comprehensive Wildfire Preparedness Guide to share with employees before, during, and after wildfires. This guide is available to all JPIA members. See below for additional employee benefits resources.

RESOURCES:

Risk Management

[EPA Wildfire Incident Plan for Water and Wastewater Utilities: Prepare – Respond – Recover](#) – This checklist is divided into three sections and outlines actions a utility can take before, during, and after a wildfire. A "My Contacts" section is provided to fill critical information that your utility may need during an incident.

[FEMA Wildfire Preparation Playbook](#) – This Wildfire Preparation Playbook provides tools and resources to support your preparedness efforts. Planning and preparing can make a big difference in being safe and keeping your doors open after a disaster. The ability to maintain or quickly reestablish operations or organization processes requires a focus on preparedness, advance planning, and relationships with external partners and community leaders.

[JPIA Commitment to Excellence Wildfire Loss Reduction Focus](#) – Beginning on page 46 of our C2E Explanation Guide, a member can find additional resilience strategies, best practices and resources to mitigate, prepare, respond, and recover from a wildfire.

[Wildfire Best Practices – JPIA Splash Alert](#) – August 2019

Members are encouraged to consider implementing one or more of the options identified to improve your public water systems' stance in the face of all hazards to help increase wildfire resilience:



1. [Customer Options for Consideration to Increase Resilience in the Face of PSPS and Wildfires 2020.](#)
2. [Options for Consideration in the Face of Wildfires and Public Safety Power Shutoff 2020.](#)

For the continuing and increasing threat of wildfire and wildland urban interface fires, numerous sources present information on monitoring fire conditions including:

- [CPUC Fire-Threat Map](#)
- [National Weather Service](#)
- [California Fire Incident Information](#)
- [National Significant Wildland Fire Potential Outlook](#)

CalWARN Portal – The mission of the California Water/Wastewater Agency Response Network (CalWARN) is to support and promote statewide emergency preparedness, disaster response, and mutual assistance processes for public and private water and wastewater utilities. The CalWARN Web Portal expands the Signatory Utility's ability to achieve agency, regional, and state preparedness by providing tools, training, and proven practices that can enhance emergency readiness for your organization and customers.

Employee Benefits

Wildfire Resource Guide - A comprehensive guide addressing preparation, monitoring wildfire status, evacuations, rebuilding, mental health, parenting, and accessing resources. Extensive resources are listed on pages 32-36.

Anthem Blue Cross – Additional benefits available to those impacted by wildfires and extreme heat in California.

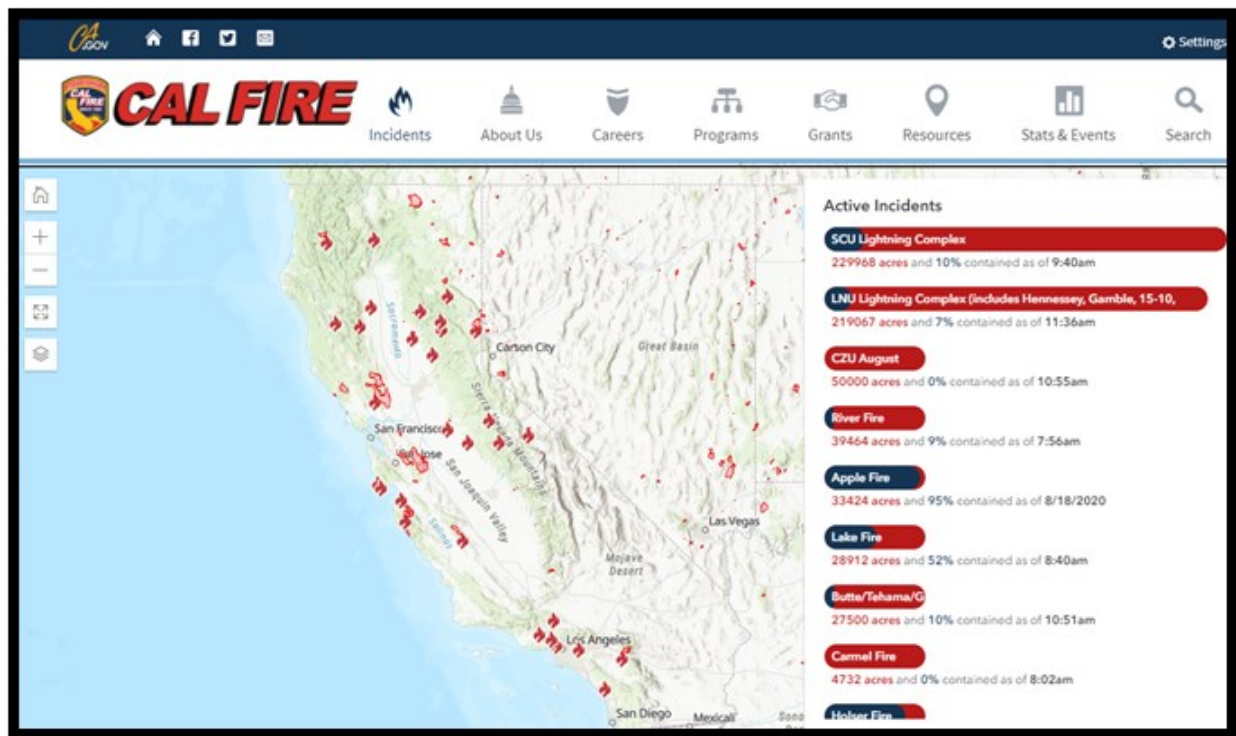


Photo Source 1 Cal Fire Website 08/21/2020