

# Working Together to Address Wildfire Risks

## The Energy Council

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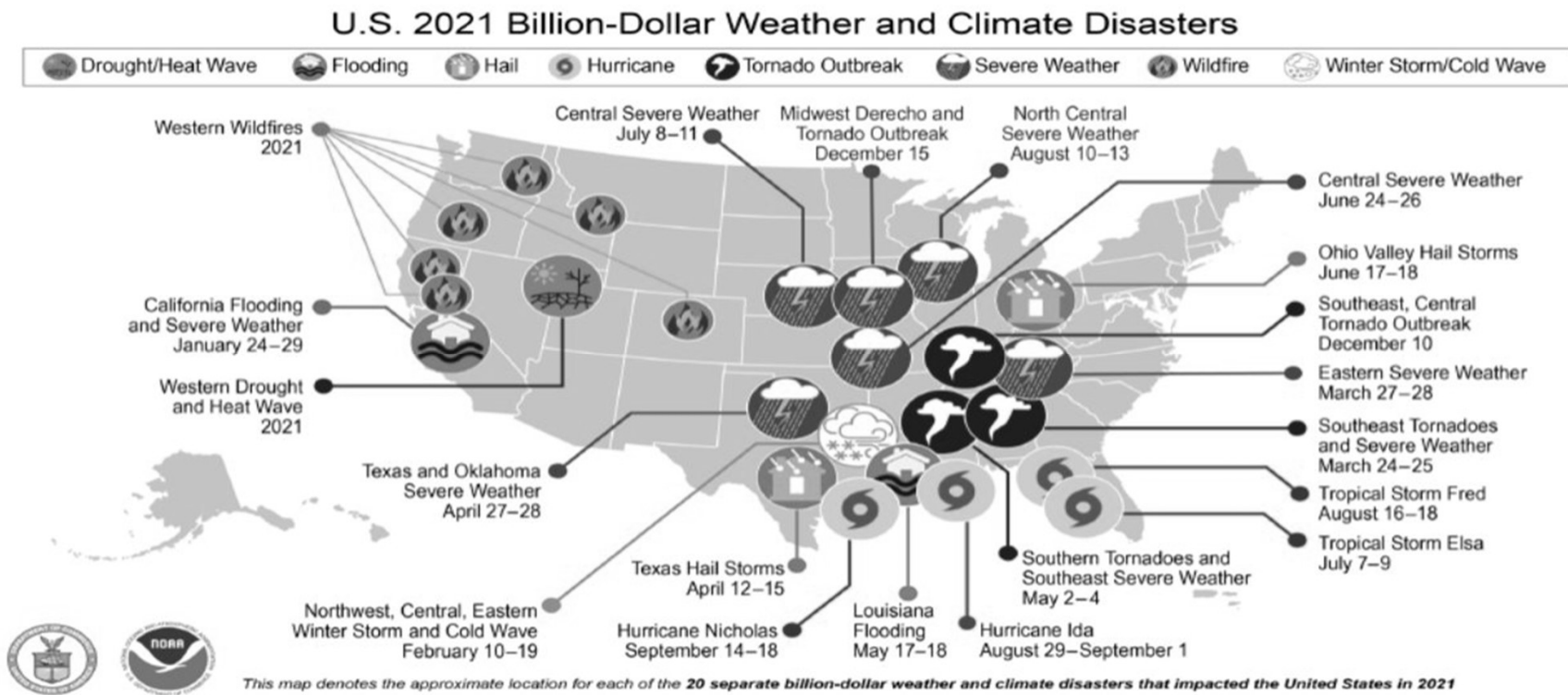
# Now More Than Ever

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*Industry and government must bring their extraordinary capabilities and resources to support efforts to mitigate the wildfire threat; better detect where and when wildfires might happen; and then more effectively respond and recover when incidents do occur.*

*Electricity Subsector Coordinating Council (2020)*

# 2021 Extreme Weather Events



# New Mexico 2022 Wildfire Acres Burned



# Energy Industry and Policy Partnerships

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- Enable more **effective coordination** among stakeholders.
- Foster **urgency and accountability** for all stakeholders across all communities.
- Improve the **allocation of resources**.
- Create, identify and address **public policy** issues that may be hindering effective wildfire risk management and response efforts.
- **Prepare communities** in high fire risk areas by communicating with a more unified voice before, during, and after incidents.

# Areas of Focus

## Mitigation

### Land Use

- More frequent and timely routine and emergency vegetation management around critical electricity infrastructure
- Land management policies that reduce fuel for fires
- Operational and maintenance activities that enhance resiliency against wildfire threats

### Enhanced Operational Practices

- Improved public safety power shutoffs (PSPS) that limit scope, duration, and frequency of outages
- Targeted undergrounding of electric lines
- Enhanced inspections in high-risk areas

### System Hardening & Technology Deployment

- Enhanced downed line recognition
- Covered conductor, protective devices and reclosers, improved network segmentation
- More accurate line-fault detection and sensors
- Near real-time automatic shutdown
- Faster and more intelligent reclosers

# Areas of Focus

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## Detection

### Situational Awareness & Informational Sharing

- Deployment and integration of sensor arrays on electricity infrastructure
- Shared satellite information in advance, during, and after an incident
- Enhanced information sharing and operational collaboration
- Inventory of biomass conditions
- Drone use
- 24/7 monitoring and incident command

### Modeling

- Prioritizing high-risk circuits and locations
- Advanced weather modeling
- Predictive fire spread modeling

# Areas of Focus

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## Response & Recovery

### Fire Containment

- Improved information sharing with firefighters and other emergency responders
- Exploration of the viability of electric industry rights-of-way as fire breaks

### Energy Grid Restoration

- Updated mutual assistance practices to address unique challenges of fire-related industry support
- Timely access to impacted areas post-incident



# Thank you

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## Questions

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