



CHRONOLOGY OF LARGE WILDLAND FIRES 1825-PRESENT

1825 - The Miramichi fire in Maine and New Brunswick; three million acres burned; 160 people killed

1846 - The Yaquina fire in Oregon; 450,000 acres burned

1853 - The Nestucca fire in Oregon; 320,000 acres burned

1865 - The Silverton fire in Oregon; one million acres burned

1868 - The Coos fire in Oregon; 300,000 acres burned

1871 - The Peshtigo fire in Wisconsin and Michigan; the most deadly fire in U.S. history; 1,500 people killed; 3.7 million acres burned

1876 - The Bighorn fire in Wyoming; 500,000 acres burned

1881 - A Michigan forest fire destroyed one million acres of timber; 169 lives lost

1894 - The Hinckley fire in Minnesota; 160,000 acres burned; twelve towns wiped out; 418 lives lost

1903 - The Adirondack fire in New York; 637,000 acres burned

1910 - The Great Fire of 1910 in Idaho and Montana; more than three million acres burned; 86 lives lost; also called "The Big Blowup"

1918 - The Cloquet fire in Minnesota; Cloquet, a thriving sawmill town of 12,000 was gutted; timber land and property losses estimated at \$30 million; 400 people perished

1932 - The Matilija Canyon fire in California's Santa Barbara National Forest; 256 square miles burned; 2,500 firefighters on the lines; no lives lost

1933 - The first of four Tillamook burns, in the Oregon coast range; subsequent fires burned in 1939, 1945 and 1951. In all, 355,000 acres of some of the finest timber in America were destroyed

1947 - Texas; in September and October, 900 man-caused fires burned 55,000 acres of timber in eastern Texas; losses exceeded \$1 million

1947 - Maine; almost 206,000 acres; 16 lives lost

1949 - Mann Gulch fire in Montana; just over 4,000 acres, but 13 Smokejumpers killed

1967 - Sundance fire in Idaho; 56,000 acres total burned; 50,000 of these acres burned in only 9 hours

1988 - Yellowstone National Park, Montana and Wyoming; a fire that was being allowed to burn broke out of the park. In all, more than 1.5 million acres of national park, national forest, and private forest land were burned

1991 - Oakland Hills fire in California; 25 lives lost; 2,900 structures destroyed

1998 - The Volusia Complex and the Flagler/St. John fires in Florida; thousands of people were evacuated from several counties with each of these fires

2000 - 90,000 wildfires burnt over 8 million acres, costing close to \$2 billion; this was double the yearly average; 2000 was the worst wildfire year since 1910

2000 - The Cerro Grande fire in New Mexico; 44,000 acres; 235 structures destroyed; Los Alamos National Laboratory damaged; 25,000 people evacuated; 20,000 foot-high plumes of smoke stretching 300 miles; 1500 archaeological sites scared or destroyed; \$1 billion; originally a prescribed burn

2002 - the Biscuit fire in Oregon; 499,570 acres; 13 structures lost; about \$148 million

2003 - in October alone, 10 fires in California burned 736,558 acres. In all, 4,750 structures were destroyed and 168 damaged, at a cost of more than \$63 million.