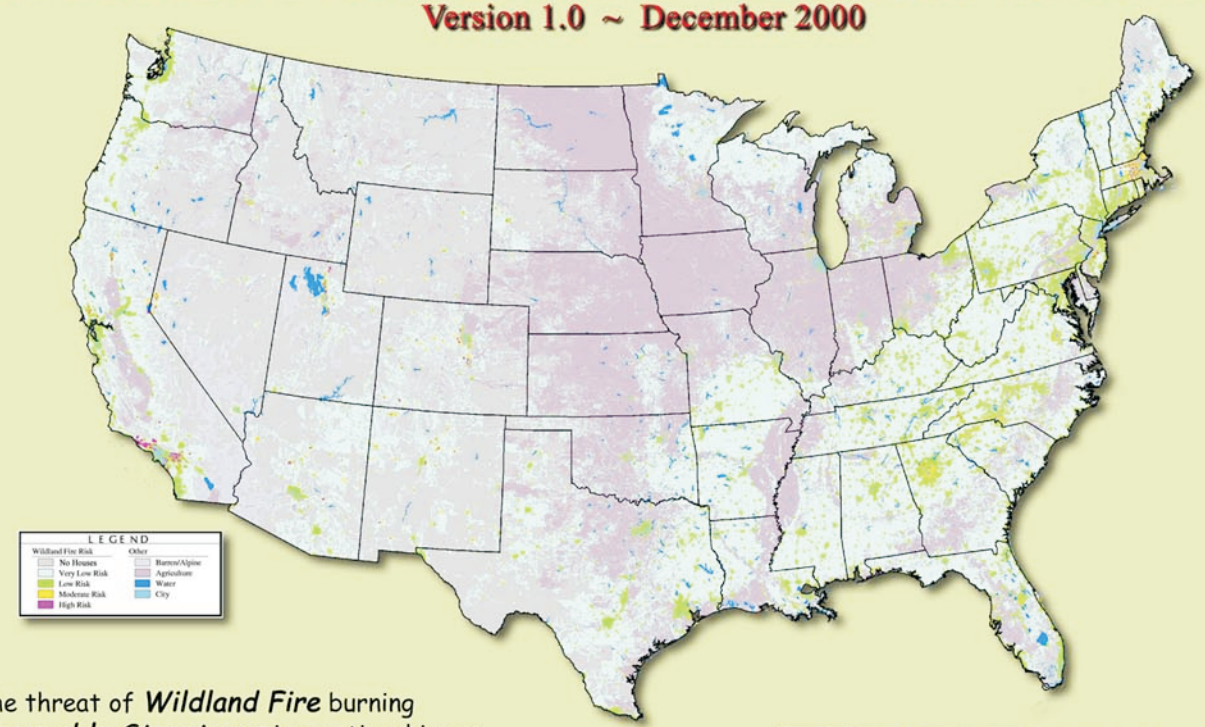
Wildland Fire Risk to Flammable Structures

Version 1.0 ~ December 2000

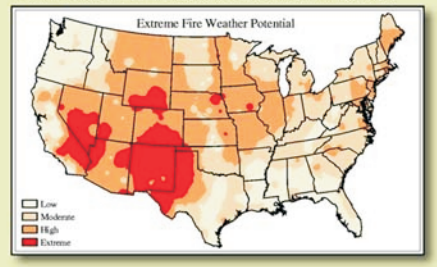


The threat of ***Wildland Fire*** burning ***Flammable Structures*** is a national issue. Each year the risk increases because fuels are constantly accumulating and flammable structures are being built adjacent to wildlands. We defined and mapped potential risk of wildland fire burning flammable structures for the conterminous United States. This map is an integration of the three GIS data layers you see to the right: ***Extreme Fire Weather Potential, Potential Fire Exposure, and Housing Density.***

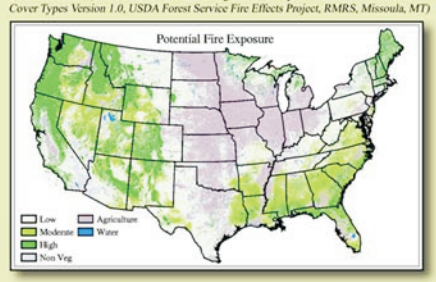
Flammable Structures
are structures that have low resistance to ignition.

Wildland Fires
are vegetation fires that start and burn in unpopulated/ undeveloped areas.

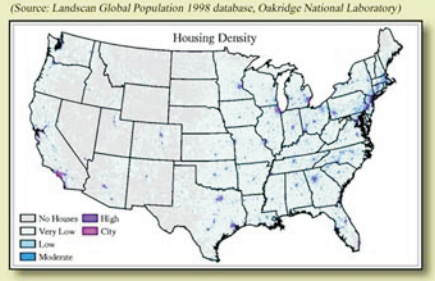
Extreme Fire Weather Potential
is a classification of the average number of days per year when weather conditions, (temperature, relative humidity, and wind speed) were similar to conditions under which wildland fire burned multiple structures in a single event.
(Source: Hourly observations for 16 years at 500+ weather stations throughout the conterminous United States, data compiled by USAF Combat Climatology Center)



Potential Fire Exposure
is a classification of vegetation type into classes that exhibit similar fire behavior or heat intensity under extreme weather conditions. *(Source: Potential Natural Vegetation Groups Version 2.0 and Current Cover Types Version 1.0, USDA Forest Service Fire Effects Project, RMRS, Missoula, MT)*



Housing Density
is a classification of human habitation ranging from wildland to city in units of houses per hectare, derived from estimates of ambient populations.
(Source: Landscan Global Population 1998 database, Oakridge National Laboratory)



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