Impacts of Climate Change and Forest Management on the Western Wildfires

Moderator: Jeff Amthor, Ph.D.

Panel: John Abatzoglou, Ph.D., Janice Coen, Ph.D., and Phil Cunningham, Ph.D.



Critical Current Wildfire Risk Issues

Property Exposure

 Continued development in fire-prone wildlands

Causes of Fire

- Humans dominate
- Lightning key in 2020

Ecosystem Management

- Forest fire suppression
- Invasive species

Property Management

- Hardening against embers
- Defensible space

Climate Change

- Longer fire season
- Drought frequency/severity

Gigafires

- New name
- Old phenomenon?



Will a New Climate Disrupt an Old Wildfire Cycle?



