Wildfire Perimeters by Decade
Greater Than 5,000 Acres
1950-2022

The Fire and Resource Assessment Program (FRAP) annually maintains and distributes an historical fire perimeter dataset from across public and private lands in California. The GIS data is jointly developed with the cooperation of the United States Forest Service Region 5, the Bureau of Land Management, the National Park Service and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and is released in April.

This map illustrates the largest fires occurring from 1950 to present, however the full dataset contains perimeters dating back to 1895. Collection criteria has changed over time, but currently requires perimeters ≥10 acres timber, ≥50 acres brush or ≥300 acres grass, ≥3 residential or commercial structures impacted, or resulting in loss of life from CAL FIRE units, and ≥10 acres from all cooperating agencies.

Although the dataset represents the most complete digital record of fire perimeters in California, it is still incomplete, and users should be cautious when drawing conclusions based on the data. For more information about the dataset and its limitations, use the metadata QR code. If you can provide feedback as a dataset user, use the QR code for our survey.

For more information, contact CAL FIRE-FRAP, PO Box 944246, Sacramento, CA 94244-2460, (916) 327-3939.