



Anaya M.

*Wildfires*

# 2020 Back At It Again

2020 has been a hectic year starting from the Coronavirus to the BLM protests. Even that doesn't seem to please 2020 right now. Our brave firefighters have been fighting fires in places like Oroville, California. We do not know the main causes of the fires but people speculate one of the fires started from a gender reveal party gone wrong. Places like Washington, Oregon, California, Idaho, Nevada, Arizona, and Utah are in great danger due to climate change and air quality. People are being asked to evacuate their homes to stay safe and healthy. As we get more information we will keep in our hearts everyone that is affected by these fires.



**Bidwell Bar Bridge on September 9th 2020**

**A picture in Oregon**



**Is this a sign of the end of the world ?**

# The worst fire in California history

## “The Camp Fire of 2018”

It is crazy how the thing that gave them light lit up their whole world in just a minute. The Camp Fire of 2018 was California's deadliest and most destructive fire that has broken out in California's history. It happened in Butte County, Northern California, on November 8. You would think “Why is it called the campfire of 2018 if it was started by a powerline?”



**The Camp Fire of 2018 destruction**

### Top 10 Deadliest California Wildfires

Rank	Fire Name and Cause	Date	County	Acres	Structures	Deaths
1	Camp Fire (Power lines)	November 2018	Butte	153,336	18,804	85

**This fires caused the most death than any fire in California**

Well, since the fire burned lots of land it resembles a campfire. People were badly affected and this fire caused up to 16.65 billion dollars in damages to the people who were hurt.



# How does wildfire affect the climate

Wildfires have been a big part of climate change. The more dry trees, and shrubs that help spread the fires, the more our Earth's climate will change. The number of dry climates has only doubled by 31 years from 1984 to 2015. How is climate change connected to wildfires? Well, we all know that climate change is making our Earth more hot and dry. So when people want to light paper, cigarettes, and campfires and don't don't put them out correctly, it leads to the fire to latch on to the dry floor and spread. Sometimes I wonder why people don't think that climate change is a big thing. Yes, we are in California where we are used to the sunny hot weather, but who wants the world hotter than it already is? Climate change is very important. As we have seen these fires destroying people's lives we must ask why isn't the government doing more to maintain climate change. Hopefully, we do not have to experience the worst for us to take this subject seriously.

# What can YOU do to help

What can you do to help as an SMA student to serve your dear neighbor and help prevent wildfires or help in general? I bet you're thinking "I would help by donating but I don't have lots of money to give." Well, if you don't have money to give just give a simple thank you to our firefighters who risk their lives every day for us. Make them cookies or bring them food. Everyone knows kindness and love always win over money. But just know even a simple penny can make a bigger change than nothing at all.

Here are some tips to prevent wildfires. Of course, number 1, if you see a fire you can not control, call the firefighter before it gets too bad. Number 2 do not leave a fire unattended. A lot of people leave campfires unattended and that is how most wildfires start. Make sure if your parents smoke, they are extinguishing all fire from cigarettes and matches. When burning waste in your backyard avoid windy days so that the fire will not spread. Just know we are in this together, one fire at a time.

# Facts about wildfires

As of 2020 we have seen wildfires spread not only in America but other continents too. But here are some facts about wildfires.

1. Did you know 90% of wildfires in America are caused by humans? Why such a large number? Well, this is because people leave campfires unattended. The remainder of 10% is caused by lightning strikes or lava.
2. There have been over 41,051 wildfires from January to September 2020 when last year there were only 35,386 wildfires. 4.7million acres were burned in 2020 compared to 4.2 million anchors in 2019 according to the National Integrity Fire Center.
3. "Crown fires" are fires that spread from treetop to treetop.
4. There are 4 types of wildfires: surface fires, dependent crown fires, spot fires, and ground fires.
5. A large amount of dried up leaves, grass, and dead animals can cause the wildfire to spread faster.
6. Weather can also contribute to wildfires like lightning strikes and droughts.



# Information Websites

All slides: Google images

Slide 2:

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/wildfire-sky-orange-bay-area-california-western-united-states/>

Slide 3:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Camp\\_Fire\\_\(2018\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Camp_Fire_(2018))

Slide 4:

<https://www.c2es.org/content/wildfires-and-climate-change/>

Slide 5:

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/environment/natural-disasters/wildfire-safety-tips/#close>

Slide 6:

<https://www.dosomething.org/us/facts/11-facts-about-wildfires>

# WATCH

# WHERE

# YOU

# LIGHT UP