Wildfires

- Vegetation fires
- Forest, Heath, Grass, Crop fires
- Effected by moisture deficit caused by high temperatures and drought
- Small ignitions to highly dynamic fires cover large spatial areas



Present situation

- Annual cost of responding to wildfires by FRS £35M in non-heat wave years (mean cost over 10 and 15 year and early modelling but very conservative figures).
- Increased cost of response between 30% to 60% during heat waves years.
- This does not include the impacts of wildfires on infrastructure, social, economic and environmental assets. Calculation of this will begin with IRS data.
- Adaptation to Climate Change: a strong enough reason to get land management government departments, agencies and Land Managers to improve land use prevention and increase response efficiency?

Risk Impacts

Wildfire Integrated Risk Management Plans

(IRMP) Guidance:

- The impact of climate on fire
- The impact of fire on fauna
- The impact of fire on flora
- The impact of fire on soil
- Human impact
- Financial impact
- The impact of fire on pollution



Fire and Rescue Statistics User Group (FRSUG)

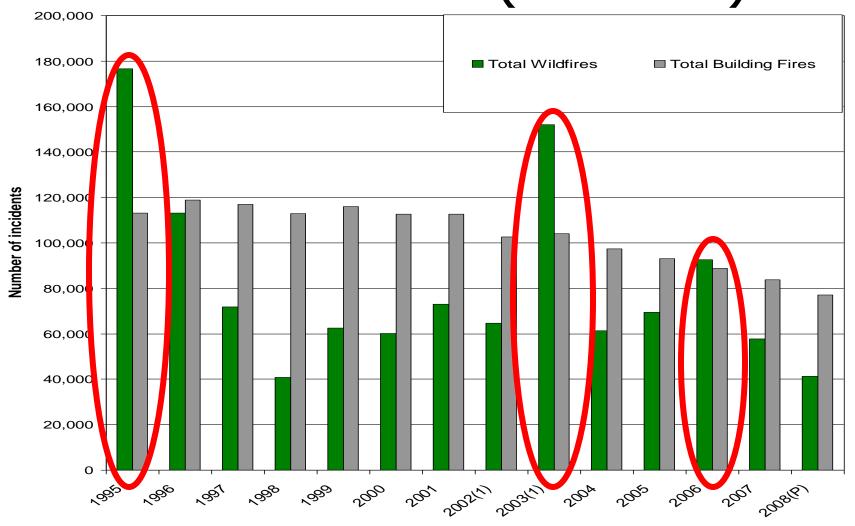
- Promoting free exchange of views and information in the use of fire and rescue statistics to inform policy and practice
- Working with FC, FR and SEEWG to develop wildfire statistics
- Improving wildfire reporting a key FRSUG objective



SE England
Wildfire
Group



Wildfire and Building Fires 1995 to 2008 (FDR1&3)



Year

Scope of UKVFS UNITED KINGDOM

Local Authority Emergency
Planning

Land Use Planning Policy Statements (PPS)

Local Development Frameworks (Planning Policy)

Community Fire Safety (CFS)

Arson Task Force

Fire Fighter Training

Incident Command (ICS)

Fire Investigation

Fire Control - e.g. Product 62

Site Specific Risk Information (SSRI)

Data on Service and Infrastructure Impacts

Governance

National / Regional / Local Risk Registers

Resilience of local services

Local Area Agreements

Land Management Operations

UKVFS

Fire Management

Vegetation Fire Recording

Land Management Planning

Land Management Strategies and Guidance

Land Management Policy

Land Manager Training

Food, timber and biofuel security

Adapting Species and Habitats to a Changing Climate

Integrated Risk Management Planning (IRMP)

Incident Recording System

Contingency Planning



Improvements

Examples of data fields included from UKVFS into the Incident Reporting System

- Habitat based approach property types
- Vegetation categories add for ignition sources and main items burnt
- The area of fire damage measured in hectares (+10,000m2)
- Wildfire specific resources and equipment (e.g. 4x4 vehicles and fogging systems etc.)
- Wildfire specific tactics and techniques (main actions)
- More relevant 'fire cause' or 'motives'

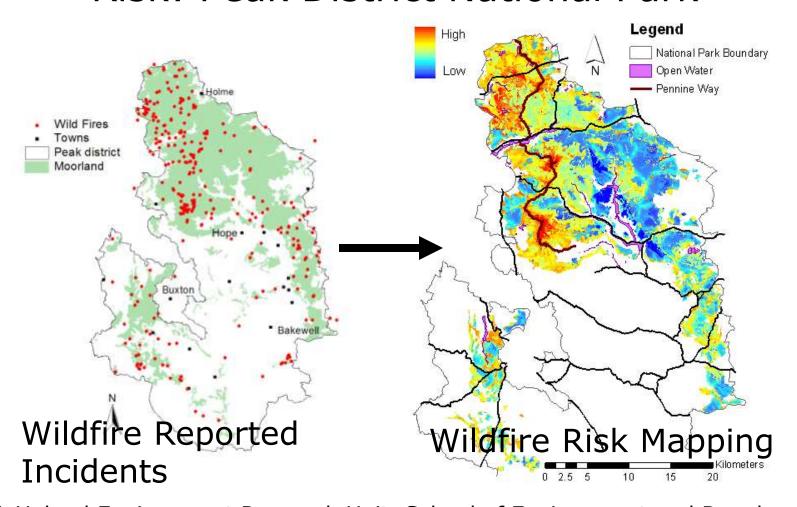




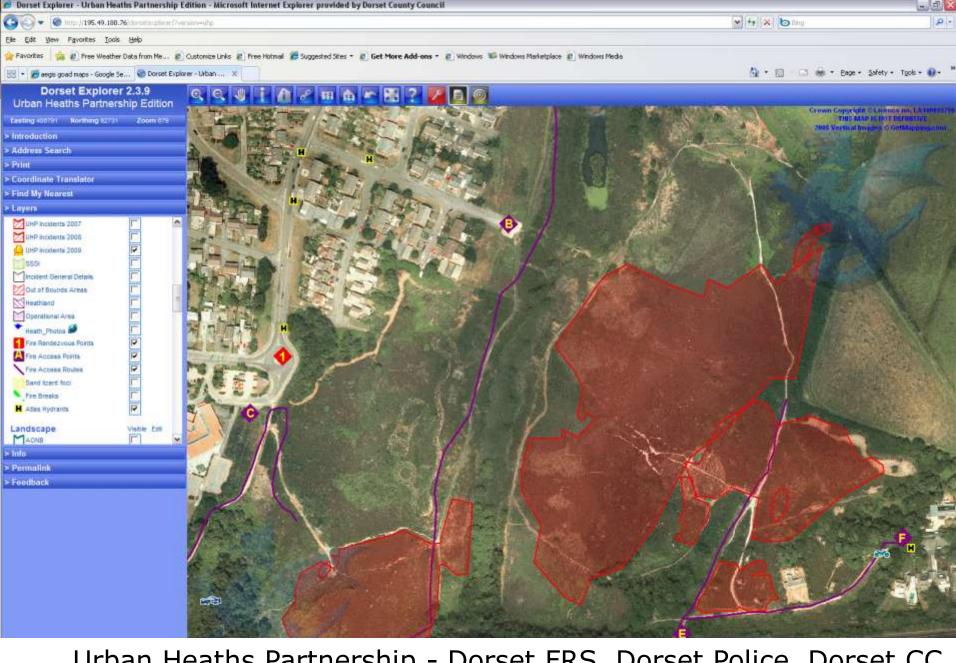


The University of Manchester

Spatial Modelling of Reported Wildfire Risk: Peak District National Park

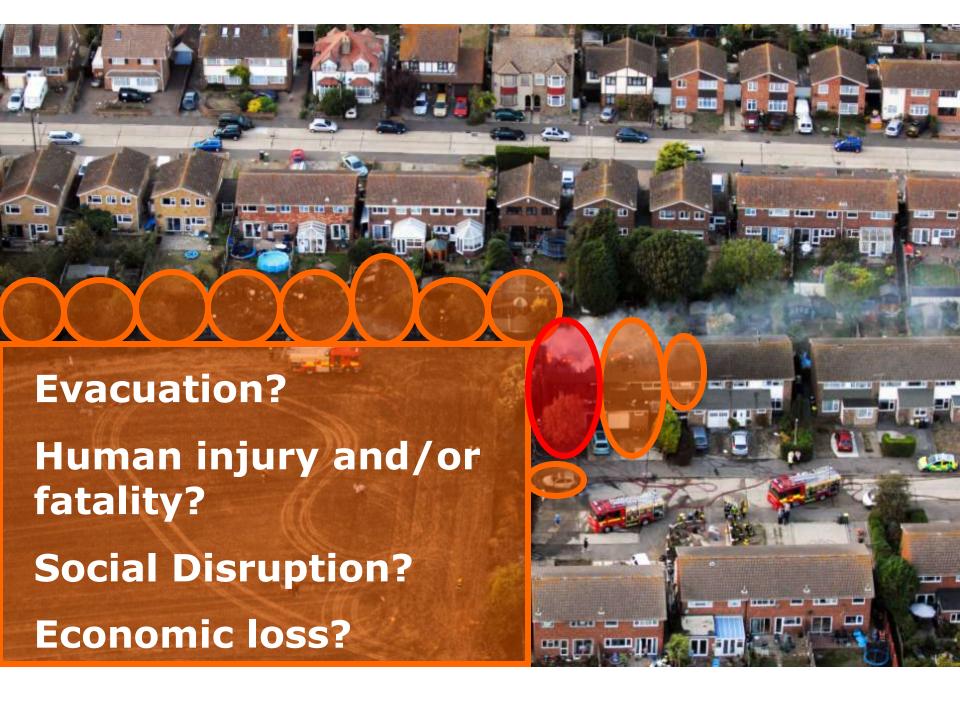


UpERU, Upland Environment Research Unit, School of Environment and Development, University of Manchester Contact:Julia.McMorrow@manchester.ac.uk



Urban Heaths Partnership - Dorset FRS, Dorset Police, Dorset CC Contact: A.C.Elliott@dorsetcc.gov.uk





Future challenges

Need for:

- Improving data on Disruption, Assets and Infrastructure impact in IRS
- Wildfire reporting training in UK for Fire Services and Land Managers (data quality improvement)
- FRS and partners to under take greater analysis of Wildfires in Integrated Risk Management Plans (IRMPs)
- Greater awareness on the need to collect data and improve quality
- Ownership of wildfire by the most appropriate government department (not the fire sector?)

Contacts:

Jon Gamble - Fire and Rescue Statistics
User Group

0303 444 3923

Tim Donovan - Met Office tim.donovan@metoffice.gov.uk 07753 880260

Rob Gazzard - South East England Wildfire Group & Forest Research rob.gazzard@forestry.gsi.gov.uk 07985 956260