

## **ASSETS AT RISK**

Asset at Risk refers to anything that has the potential to be burned or damaged by wildfire in an area. The San Diego Unit has a multitude of natural resource and manmade assets that are at risk when major wildfires occur. The Assets at Risk listed below is a generalized list provided in the San Diego Unit's 2005 Fire Plan. Following this generalized Assets at Risk section, is an Assets at Risk by Battalion section.

### ***Generalized Assets at Risk***

#### **AIR QUALITY**

Air quality is an issue near both the metropolitan areas and the hinterlands of San Diego County. Prescribed burn projects minimize the negative effects that wildfires have on the air quality. Prescribed burning is performed when the weather conditions will allow quick dispersal of the smoke generated by the burn. These burns are aimed at reducing the amount of heavy brush and dense forest fuels. The lighter fuels, which exist after a prescribed burn, produce considerably less smoke when burned by a wildfire.

#### **WATER**

Watershed areas are a concern because of soil erosion after a wildfire, which damages water flumes and storage facilities.

#### **WILDLIFE**

Most of the unit consists of brush, forest and grass covered lands which provide excellent habitat for both game and non-game wildlife. Many wildfires burn at such a high intensity that they affect wildlife by damaging or destroying their fragile habitat. This can be mitigated through the use of prescribed fire.

#### **RECREATION AND SCENIC**

Recreation is an important industry in the unit. Camping, fishing, wine tasting and many other leisure activities account for a large percentage of the revenue generated in the wild land urban interface.

#### **STRUCTURES**

This county has experienced a massive loss of structures and businesses in the past, both in city neighborhoods and the wild land urban interface. Communities like Julian, Cuyamaca, Ramona, Valley Center, Palomar Mountain, Ranchita and the South County communities of Dulzura, Jamul, Potrero, Campo and many other areas in the county will always have a high risk of structure loss due to wildfire.

#### **INFRASTRUCTURE**

Major power line, water disruption facilities, communications systems, major transportation routes and truck trails can be destroyed or damaged during a wildfire in San Diego County.

A San Diego Unit field assessment performed by the Battalion Chiefs has identified communities, infrastructure and watershed values at risk from wildfire.

## ***Assets at Risk by Battalion***

The following is a list of specific assets at risk by Battalion. This information has been verified by field Battalion Chief.

### **Battalion 1**

#### **COMMUNITIES AT RISK:**

- Du Luz Canyon
- Deer Springs
- Hidden Meadows
- Pala Mesa Village
- Rainbow
- Twin Oaks

#### **INFRASTRUCTURE:**

- Du Luz Road

#### **WATERSHED:**

- Santa Margarita River
- San Luis Rey River

### **Battalion 2**

#### **COMMUNITIES AT RISK:**

- Alpines Heights
- Carveacre
- Descanso
- Sycuan Summit

#### **INFRASTRUCTURE:**

- San Miguel Mountain communication facilities and towers

#### **WATERSHED:**

- Loveland Reservoir
- Sweetwater River

### **Battalion 3**

#### **COMMUNITIES AT RISK:**

- Lawson Valley
- Lyons Valley
- Jamul
- Potrero

#### **INFRASTRUCTURE:**

- Otay Mountain water tanks
- Otay Mountain communication facilities and towers
- Tecate Peak communication facilities and towers
- SDG&E Southwest Power link main distribution lines

## **Battalion 4**

### **COMMUNITIES AT RISK:**

- Boulevard
- Campo
- Descanso
- Guatay
- Jacumba
- La Posta
- Lake Morena
- Pine Valley

### **INFRASTRUCTURE:**

- SDG&E Southwest Power link
- US Border Patrol Station on La Posta Road

### **WATERSHED:**

- Lake Morena
- Pine Creek

## **Battalion 5**

### **COMMUNITIES AT RISK:**

- Mesa Grande
- Stone Ridge
- Sunshine Summit
- Warner Springs
- Whispering Pines

### **INFRASTRUCTURE:**

- Cuyamaca Peak communication facilities and towers
- North Peak communication facilities and towers
- Volcan Mountain communication facilities and towers

## **Battalion 7**

### **COMMUNITIES AT RISK:**

- Palomar Mountain
  - Bailey Meadow
  - Crestline
  - Birch Hill
  - Conifer Road Residential areas.
- Valley Center
  - Lilac and Keys Creek
  - Couser Canyon
  - Woods Valley
  - Pauma Heights
  - Lake Wolford and Canal area
  - Mystery Mountain and Wilkes area
- Rancho Santa Fe

### **INFRASTRUCTURE:**

- Palomar Observatory

- Highway 76 out of Valley Center to Palomar mountain
- Boucher Hill communication towers
- Valley Center water distribution facility

**WATERSHED:**

- Lake Wohlford

**Battalion 8**

**COMMUNITIES AT RISK:**

- Mount Woodson
- Rosemont and Rock Haven area off of Mussey Grade

**INFRASTRUCTURE:**

- Mount Woodson Peak communication facilities and towers

**WATERSHED:**

- Ramona Reservoir
- Lake Sutherland