

20 Largest California Wildland Fires (By *Acreage Burned)

FIRE NAME/CAUSE	DATE	COUNTY	ACRES	STRUCTURES	DEATHS
1 CEDAR (<i>HUMAN</i>)	October 2003	SAN DIEGO	273,246	2,820	15
2 ZACA (<i>HUMAN</i>)	July 2007	SANTA BARBARA	240,207	1	0
3 MATILJA (<i>UNDETERMINED</i>)	September 1932	VENTURA	220,000	0	0
4 WITCH (<i>POWERLINES</i>)	October 2007	SAN DIEGO	197,990	1,650	2
5 KLAMATH THEATER COMPLEX (<i>LIGHTNING</i>)	June 2008	SISKIYOU	192,038	0	2
6 MARBLE CONE (<i>LIGHTNING</i>)	July 1977	MONTEREY	177,866	0	0
7 LAGUNA (<i>POWERLINES</i>)	September 1970	SAN DIEGO	175,425	382	5
8 BASIN COMPLEX (<i>LIGHTNING</i>)	June 2008	MONTEREY	162,818	58	0
9 DAY FIRE (<i>HUMAN</i>)	September 2006	VENTURA	162,702	11	0
10 STATION FIRE (<i>HUMAN</i>)	August 2009	LOS ANGELES	160,557	209	2
11 MCNALLY (<i>HUMAN</i>)	July 2002	TULARE	150,696	17	0
12 STANISLAUS COMPLEX (<i>LIGHTNING</i>)	August 1987	TUOLUMNE	145,980	28	1
13 BIG BAR COMPLEX (<i>LIGHTNING</i>)	August 1999	TRINITY	140,948	0	0
14 CAMPBELL COMPLEX (<i>POWERLINES</i>)	August 1990	TEHAMA	125,892	27	0
15 WHEELER (<i>ARSON</i>)	July 1985	VENTURA	118,000	26	0
16 SIMI (<i>UNDER INVESTIGATION</i>)	October 2003	VENTURA	108,204	300	0
17 HWY. 58 (<i>VEHICLE</i>)	August 1996	SAN LUIS OBISPO	106,668	13	0
18 IRON ALPS COMPLEX (<i>LIGHTNING</i>)	June 2008	TRINITY	105,805	2	10
19 CLAMPITT (<i>POWERLINES</i>)	September 1970	LOS ANGELES	105,212	86	4
20 BAR COMPLEX (<i>LIGHTNING</i>)	July 2006	TRINITY	100,414	0	0

There is no doubt that there were fires with significant acreage loss in years prior to 1932, but those records are less reliable, and this list is meant to give an overview of the large acreage-loss fires in more recent times. (Also note that this list does not include fire jurisdiction. These are the top 20 within the state, regardless of whether they were state, federal, or local responsibility.)

