

Over 100 fire scientists urge the western U.S. to forego fireworks this Fourth of July

June 30, 2021

The July 4th weekend in the United States this year will be like no other we've experienced in the nation's history. The extreme heat impacting the northwestern United States and Canada this week comes on top of an already record-setting drought across much of western North America. This is setting the stage for widespread fire activity.

We are gravely concerned about the potential for humans to accidentally start fires – from fireworks and other activities – by adding ignitions to this combination of historic drought, heat, and dry vegetation.

We urge people to skip the fireworks this July 4th and to avoid other activities that could start an unintentional wildfire. This will be critical for a safe Independence Day holiday, good practice for the rest of the fire season, and one way we can adapt to more safely live in increasingly flammable landscapes.

As of June 30, 2021, 21:00 (MDT)

Name	Affiliation
Megan Dolman	Boise State University
Mojtaba Sadegh	Boise State University
Luke Montrose	Boise State University
Carson MacPherson-Krutsky	Boise State University
Chris Jakober	California Air Resources Board
Alan Tepley	Canadian Forest Service
Winslow Hansen	Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies
Megan Walsh	Central Washington University
Jennifer Lipton	Central Washington University
Rebecca Barnes	Colorado College
Andreas Wion	Colorado State University
Wade Tinkham	Colorado State University
Monique Rocca	Colorado State University
Courtney Schultz	Colorado State University
Sarah Hart	Colorado State University
Camille Stevens-Rumann	Colorado State University
Arianna Varuolo-Clarke	Columbia University
Caitlin Littlefield	Conservation Science Partners
Wynne Moss	Conservation Science Partners
Nathan Mietkiewicz	CoreLogic
John Kominoski	Florida International University

Jennifer Russell	Idaho Department of Lands
Morey Burnham	Idaho State University
Norris Muth	Juniata College
Dylan Darter	Kansas State University
Alex Jonko	Los Alamos National Laboratory
Mark Suchyta	Michigan State University
Dave McWethy	Montana State University
Cathy Whitlock	Montana State University
Bruce Maxwell	Montana State University
Katie Epstein	Montana State University
Tony Hartshorn	Montana State University
Jacquelyn Shuman	National Center for Atmospheric Research
Erin Seekamp	North Carolina State University
Peter Fulé	Northern Arizona University
Adam Young	Northern Arizona University
Michelle Mack	Northern Arizona University
Xanthe Walker	Northern Arizona University
Adrianna Foster	Northern Arizona University
Nathan Smith	Ocean Associates
Meg Krawchuk	Oregon State University
Lisa Ellsworth	Oregon State University
Janean Creighton	Oregon State University
Kevin Bladon	Oregon State University
Erica Fleishman	Oregon State University
Thomas H. DeLuca	Oregon State University
Erica Smithwick	Pennsylvania State University
William Nanavati	Portland State University
Andrés Holz	Portland State University
Cody Evers	Portland State University
Haley Hartenstine	Purdue University
Carol Miller	Retired
Alexandra D. Syphard	San Diego State University
Ben Poulter	Scientist
Jenna Knobloch	Sustainable Northwest
Jacob Bendix	Syracuse University
Jackie Delie	The Ohio State University
Chris Guiterman	University of Arizona
Beth Roskilly	University of British Columbia
Hannah Palmer	University of California Davis
Daniel Swain	University of California Los Angeles
Max Moritz	University of California Santa Barbara
Michael Gollner	University of California, Berkeley
Morgan Tingley	University of California, Los Angeles
John Abatzoglou	University of California, Merced

Jonathan Griffith	University of Colorado Boulder
Jennifer Balch	University of Colorado Boulder
Natasha Stavros	University of Colorado Boulder
Tania Schoennagel	University of Colorado Boulder
Thomas Veblen	University of Colorado Boulder
Stephens	University of Colorado Boulder
R. Chelsea Nagy	University of Colorado Boulder
Hannah Brenkert-Smith	University of Colorado Boulder
Ze'ev Gedalof	University of Guelph, Canada
Lynn Wells	University of Idaho
Diana Olson	University of Idaho
Heather Heward	University of Idaho
Penny Morgan	University of Idaho
Alistair Smith	University of Idaho
Timothy E. Link	University of Idaho
Grant Harley	University of Idaho
Joshua Hyde	University of Idaho
Jacquelyn Gill	University of Maine
Philip Higuera	University of Montana
Alexander L. Metcalf	University of Montana
William Rice	University of Montana
Kyra Wolf	University of Montana
Brett Alan Miller	University of Montana
Jennifer Fowler	University of Montana
Cory Cleveland	University of Montana
Marco P. Maneta	University of Montana
Erin Landguth	University of Montana
Jamie Peeler	University of Montana
Beth Dodson	University of Montana
Kimberley Davis	University of Montana
Alan Townsend	University of Montana
Kari Gunderson	University of Montana
Elizabeth Covelli Metcalf	University of Montana
Mark Hebblewhite	University of Montana
Cara R. Nelson	University of Montana
Curtis Noonan	University of Montana
Laurie Yung	University of Montana
Erin Semmens	University of Montana
Victoria Dreitz	University of Montana
Ben Colman	University of Montana
Dane Scott	University of Montana
Tony Ward	University of Montana
Alexandria Albers	University of Montana
Erim Gómez	University of Montana

Timber Burnette	University of Montana
Andrew Wilcox	University of Montana
Anna Klene	University of Montana
Katrina Mullan	University of Montana
Tyler Hoecker	University of Montana
Sarah J. Halvorson	University of Montana
Diana L. Six	University of Montana
Marco Turco	University of Murcia, Spain
Lacey Hankin	University of Nevada Reno
Erin Hanan	University of Nevada, Reno
Adrian Rocha	University of Notre Dame
Michael Coughlan	University of Oregon
Patrick Bartlein	University of Oregon
Daniel Gavin	University of Oregon
David Bowman	University of Tasmania, Australia
Fernanda Santos	University of Tennessee
Sandro Bertolino	University of Turin, Italy
Andrea Brunelle	University of Utah
Susan Prichard	University of Washington
Olivia Sanderfoot	University of Washington
Meade Krosby	University of Washington
Ernesto Alvarado	University of Washington
Sarah Bassing	University of Washington
Ross Bradstock	University of Wollongong, Australia
Bryan Shuman	University of Wyoming
Barrie Chileen	US Army Corps of Engineers
Andrew Hudak	US Forest Service
Robert E. Keane	US Forest Service
Jessica Ulrich-Schad	Utah State University
Mark Brunson	Utah State University
Jordan W. Smith	Utah State University
Mark Swanson	Washington State University
Bill Gabbert	Wildfire Today
Jennifer Marlon	Yale University