### GRID RESILIENCE REPORT | DISCLAIMER

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### INDEPENDENT ADVISOR

As part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), the federal government has earmarked non-competitive funding for states and Indian tribes to improve the resilience of their electric grids. Known as the Grid Resilience State and Tribal Formula Grants, this program is designed to strengthen and modernize America's power grid against wildfires, extreme weather, and other natural disasters.

Baringa was commissioned by the Department of Energy (DOE) to participate in a consortium of technical assistance providers known as Grid Resilience and Climate Change Impacts (GRACI) as an independent advisor that supported states in the allocation of their grants.

The following **California Grid Resilience Report** was produced for the California Energy Commission (CEC) as part of the technical assistance program. This report helps states identify future risks from extreme weather by analyzing downscaled climate projections and assessing the impact to various energy assets out to mid- and end-century. Additionally, the report suggests low- and high-cost mitigation and adaptation strategies to address the identified risks.

A custom version of this report was produced for all 11 states in the Western Electric Coordinating Council (WECC). For more information on these additional reports or the GRACI program, please feel free to reach out to the Baringa team.



### **CERRI DISCLAIMER**

The California Energy Commission's (CEC) Community Energy Reliability and Resilience Investment (CERRI) Program funds projects across California that increase community energy resilience and reliability, advance state energy and resilience goals, and create good-paying jobs.

This report was prepared as the result of work sponsored by the U.S Department of Energy. It does not necessarily represent the views of the CEC, its employees, or the State of California. The CEC, the State of California, its employees, contractors, and subcontractors make no warranty, express or implied, and assume no legal liability for the information in this report. This report has not been approved or disapproved by the CEC, nor has the California Energy Commission passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of the information in this report. This report may act as a reference for potential applicants, but will not be factored in how grant applications are scored.







## **Grid Resilience Reports**

California

**Energy & Resources | Networks** 3/17/2025

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## BACKGROUND | GLOSSARY

## **Glossary**

**ACCC** – Aluminium Conductor Composite Core

**ANL** – Argonne National Laboratory

**BESS** – Battery energy storage system

**CCGT** – Combined cycle gas turbine

**CEC** – California Energy Commission

CERRI – Community Energy Reliability and Resilience Investment Program (CERRI)

Program

**CT** – Combustion turbine

**CZ** – Climate zone

**DER** – Distributed energy resource

**DLR** – Dynamic line rating

Dx – Distribution

**FWI** – Fire Weather Index

**GRR** – Grid Resilience Report

**HV Tx**– High voltage (>345 kV)

LV Tx- Low voltage (<100 kV)

MV Tx- Medium voltage (100-287 kV)

N/S/E/W – refer to cardinal directions (North, South, East, West)

O+M - Operations and maintenance

**OEM** – Original equipment manufacturer

**P1, P2, P3** – Peak 1,2, 3

Tx - Transmission

**VPP** – Virtual power plant



## Aligning Grid Resilience Report insights to the CEC Title 24 Climate Zones



\*Weather data from the representative city was used to inform CEC's development of Title 24 energy efficiency standards

This report breaks down future climate exposure by the <u>Title 24 Climate Zones</u> in order to **highlight regional priorities by hazard** for <u>Community Energy Reliability and Resilience Investment Program (CERRI) Program applicants.</u>

Proposed projects in counties and climate zones with higher identified exposure are preferred given their ability to mitigate more future risk.

The <u>Title 24 Climate Zones</u>, originally created by the CEC for energy efficiency standards, account for the diversity of climates throughout California.

Working with climate data at the county level, this analysis maps counties to the zones in which the majority of their zip codes were located (see left map).

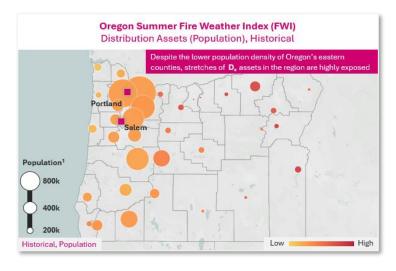
Climate Zone	Representative City*	Summer Avg. Max Temp	Hist. Summer FWI
1	Arcata	78.9	23.8
2	Santa Rosa	84.5 26.8	
3	Oakland	86.7 37.2	
4	San Jose-Reid	87.8 37.3	
5	Santa Maria	91.9	36.8
6	Torrance	85.2	36.9
7	San Diego-Lindbergh	100.1	58.8
8	Fullerton	86.3	30.5
9	Burbank-Glendale	90.2	59.2
10	Riverside	103.2	65.2
11	Red Bluff	95.8	36.4
12	Sacramento	93.5 35.1	
13	Fresno	97.1	40.2
14	Palmdale	103.2	63.0
15	Palm Spring-Intl	103.7	58.8
16	Blue Canyon	93.8	31.0



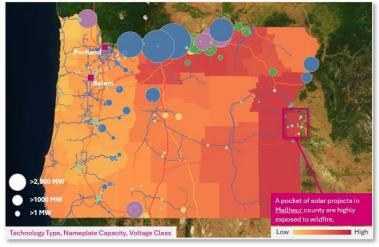
## This report is standardized to include 3 different data visualizations that provide insights for Distribution, Transmission, and Generation across 7 extreme weather hazards



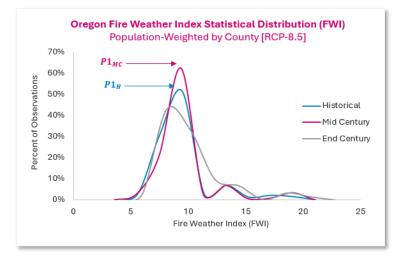
## Distribution Maps



Transmission & Generation Maps



Statistical
Distribution Graphs



- Purpose: Uses population as proxy for volume of distribution assets given that the location of distribution assets is restricted.
- Interpretation\*: Locate areas of high exposure by identifying counties with coincident large bubbles and dark colors. This indicates a combination of high volume of Distribution (Dx) assets and significantly high extreme weather projections. Lack of utility data inhibits the ability to look at feeder level data.
- **Purpose:** Overlays transmission and generation assets on climate projections by county.
- Interpretation: Locate areas of high exposure by identifying assets in counties of high risk. Exposure differs by asset class and will be highlighted in Key Insights tables throughout.
- Purpose: Contains statistical insights related to each metric. Indicates change in dispersion and severity of risk over time on average
- Interpretation: An increase in the width of the peak indicates a decrease in concentration of exposure, meaning more counties are exposed to more severe weather. A shift right in the curve indicates that on average, counties are experiencing more severe weather.

\*Note: Analysis addresses risk given volume of assets and does not account for risk to remote customers at end of radial distribution grids. See example solutions in following slide.



## **Climate Zone Overviews**

Key Hazards by Climate Zone

## Climate Zones 1-4 face peak statewide flood exposure, as well as pockets of extreme wind exposure in Climate Zone 3

Climate Zone	Counties	(b) Most Concerning Hazards	Key Asset Impacts	Relevant 40101(d) Investments
1	Del Norte, Humboldt	FLOOD WIND DROUGHT RAIN	<ul> <li>Ground-level substation components (HV transformers, control houses, etc.) are highly exposed to flooding and have long lead times and high cost of replacement.</li> <li>Various unreinforced distribution poles have high probability of failure when exposed to winds &gt;70mph*, far below the 100-year return value for Climate Zone 1.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Flooding: Flood walls, substation elevation, enclosures, control house remediation (see slides 18, 19).</li> <li>Wind: Pole reinforcement, pole material upgrade, decreased spans, vegetation management (see slides 21, 23).</li> </ul>
2	Lake, Marin, Mendocino, Napa, Sonoma	FLOOD RAIN	<ul> <li>Ground-level substation components (HV transformers, control houses, etc.) are highly exposed to flooding and have long lead times and high cost of replacement.</li> <li>Distribution poles can be washed out during flash floods or mudslides.</li> </ul>	• <b>Flooding:</b> Flood walls, substation elevation, enclosures, control house remediation, pole upgrades (see <u>slides 18</u> , <u>19</u> ).
3	Alameda, Monterey, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Cruz	WIND HEAT	<ul> <li>Unreinforced distribution poles can fail when exposed to winds &gt;70mph, far below the 100-year return value for Climate Zone 3.</li> <li>Monterey County could experience significant extreme heat exposure by end-century, contributing to high asset utilization and potential substation/transformer failure.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Wind: Pole reinforcement, pole material upgrade, decreased spans, vegetation management (see <u>slides 21, 23</u>).</li> <li>Heat: Upgrade transformer capacity, install monitors &amp; sensors, distribution line undergrounding, etc. (see <u>slides 26, 27</u>).</li> </ul>
4	San Benito, Santa Clara	FLOOD DROUGHT HEAT	<ul> <li>Ground-level substation components (HV transformers, control houses, etc.) are highly exposed to flooding and have long lead times and high cost of replacement.</li> <li>Climate Zone 4 could experience a significant increase in extreme heat exposure by end-century, contributing to high asset utilization and potential substation/transformer failure.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Flooding: Flood walls, substation elevation, enclosures, control house remediation, pole upgrades (see <u>slides 18</u>, 19).</li> <li>Heat: Upgrade transformer capacity, install monitors &amp; sensors, distribution line undergrounding, etc. (see <u>slides 26</u>, 27).</li> </ul>

<sup>\*</sup>Salman, A. M. and Li, Y.: Age-dependent fragility and life-cycle cost analysis of wood and steel power distribution poles subjected to hurricanes,



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## Climate Zones 5-8 face some of the most extreme heat and fire exposure in the state, posing a threat of utility-caused ignitions, increased asset utilization, and direct component failure

Climate Zone	Counties	Most Concerning Hazards	Key Asset Impacts	Relevant 40101(d) Investments
5	San Luis Obispo	FIRE HEAT DROUGHT	<ul> <li>Bordering counties with severe fire weather exposure increases the likelihood of distribution system damage from fire propagation.</li> <li>San Luis Obispo County could be exposed to increasingly severe extreme heat days, contributing to high asset utilization and potential substation/transformer failure.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Fire: Pole wrapping, vegetation management, undergrounding, covered conductors, and more (see <u>slides 13, 14</u>).</li> <li>Heat: Upgrade transformer capacity, install monitors &amp; sensors, distribution line undergrounding, etc. (see <u>slides 26</u>, 27).</li> </ul>
6	Santa Barbara	FIRE DROUGHT	<ul> <li>Bordering counties with severe fire weather exposure increases the likelihood of distribution system damage from fire propagation. Fire weather exposure is projected to become more severe over time.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Fire: Pole wrapping, vegetation management, undergrounding, covered conductors, and more (see <u>slides 13</u>, <u>14</u>).</li> </ul>
7	San Diego	FIRE HEAT	<ul> <li>Climate Zone 7 faces peak statewide fire exposure.</li> <li>Increasingly severe fire weather exposure can increase the likelihood of utility-caused ignitions, resulting in massive liabilities.</li> <li>Increasingly severe extreme heat exposure necessitates distribution substation and transformer upgrades to combat derating, accelerated degradation, and failure.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Fire: Pole wrapping, vegetation management, undergrounding, covered conductors, and more (see <u>slides 13</u>, <u>14</u>).</li> <li>Heat: Upgrade transformer capacity, install monitors &amp; sensors, distribution line undergrounding, etc. (see <u>slides 26</u>, <u>27</u>).</li> </ul>
8	Orange	FIRE HEAT	<ul> <li>Bordering counties with severe fire weather exposure increases the likelihood of distribution system damage from fire propagation. Fire weather exposure is projected to become more severe over time.</li> <li>Orange County is projected to experience a 16x increase in days &gt;105°F by end-century, posing a threat of direct failure to distribution substations and transformers.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Fire: Pole wrapping, vegetation management, undergrounding, covered conductors, and more (see <u>slides 13, 14</u>).</li> <li>Heat: Upgrade transformer capacity, install monitors &amp; sensors, distribution line undergrounding, etc. (see <u>slides 26</u>, 27).</li> </ul>



## Climate Zones 9 & 10 face increasingly severe wildfire and heat exposure, while zones 11 & 12 are mainly exposed to heavy precipitation and flooding

	•	•		
Climate Zone	Counties	Most Concerning Hazards	<b>Key Asset Impacts</b>	Relevant 40101(d) Investments
9	Los Angeles, Ventura	FIRE HEAT DROUGHT	<ul> <li>Climate Zone 9 faces FWI levels in the 99<sup>th</sup> percentile nationwide, indicating significant risk of utility-caused ignitions, distribution pole damage from fire, faults caused by smoke and ash collecting on distribution lines.</li> <li>While Climate Zone 9 is historically exposed to heat, the frequency of extreme heat days is projected to increase drastically by end-century, causing high asset utilization, accelerated degradation, and direct component failure.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Fire: Pole wrapping, vegetation management, undergrounding, covered conductors, and more (see <u>slides 13, 14</u>).</li> <li>Heat: Upgrade transformer capacity, install monitors &amp; sensors, distribution line undergrounding, etc. (see <u>slides 26</u>, <u>27</u>).</li> </ul>
10	Riverside	FIRE HEAT	<ul> <li>Climate Zone 10 is exposed to peak statewide fire exposure, posing a significant threat of utility-caused ignition and Dx/Tx line damage.</li> <li>While Climate Zone 10 is historically exposed to heat, the frequency of extreme heat days is projected to increase drastically by end-century, causing high asset utilization, accelerated degradation, and direct component failure for distribution and transmission lines.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Fire: Pole wrapping, vegetation management, Dx &amp; Tx undergrounding, covered conductors, and more (see <u>slides 13, 14</u>).</li> <li>Heat: Upgrade transformer capacity, install monitors &amp; sensors, DLR distribution line undergrounding, etc. (see <u>slides 26, 27</u>).</li> </ul>
11	Butte, Colusa, Glenn, Nevada, Placer, Shasta, Sutter, Tehama, Yuba	RAIN FLOOD COLD	<ul> <li>Significant flooding exposure poses a threat of inundation to ground-based substation equipment and uprooting of weak distribution poles.</li> <li>Snow and icing can increase mechanical loading on nearby vegetation and distribution lines themselves, contributing to outages.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Flood: Flood walls, substation elevation, enclosures, control house remediation, pole upgrades, (see <u>slides 18, 19</u>).</li> <li>Cold: Vegetation management, decreased spans, pole upgrades, undergrounding, etc. (see <u>slides 31, 33</u>).</li> </ul>
12	Amador, Calaveras, Contra Costa, El Dorado, Mariposa, Merced, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Solano, Stanislaus, Tuolumne, Yolo	RAIN HEAT WIND	<ul> <li>Counties in Climate Zone 12 are projected to experience over a 5x in days &gt;105°F by end-century, causing high asset utilization, accelerated degradation, and direct component failure across both transmission and distribution.</li> <li>Distribution poles can fail when exposed to wind speeds &gt; 70 mph, far below the 100-year return value for eastern counties in CZ-12 along the Sierra Nevada Mountains</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Heat: Upgrade transformer capacity, install monitors &amp; sensors, DLR distribution line undergrounding, etc. (see slides 26, 27).</li> <li>Wind: Pole reinforcement, pole material upgrade, decreased spans, vegetation management, (see slides 21, 23).</li> </ul>

## Climate Zones 13 & 16 face significant cold and wind exposure given their overlap with the Sierra Nevada mountain range, while zones 14 & 15 are exposed to heat and wildfire

Climate Zone	Counties	(b) Most Concerning Hazards	Key Asset Impacts	Relevant 40101(d) Investments
13	Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Tulare	COLD WIND DROUGHT	<ul> <li>Below-freezing average annual minimum temperatures pose a threat of snow/icing which increases mechanical loading on nearby vegetation and Tx/Dx lines themselves, contributing to outages.</li> <li>Severe wind exposure in Kern County poses a threat of line contact and tower damage to a high volume of Tx assets.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Cold: Vegetation management, decreased spans, pole upgrades, undergrounding, structure rebuilds, etc. (see <u>slides 31, 33</u>).</li> <li>Wind: Pole reinforcement, pole material upgrade, decreased spans, vegetation management, structure rebuilds, etc. (see <u>slides 21, 23</u>).</li> </ul>
14	San Bernadino	FIRE HEAT COLD	<ul> <li>While Climate Zone 14 is historically exposed to heat, the frequency of extreme heat days is projected to increase drastically by end-century, causing high asset utilization, accelerated degradation, and direct component failure.</li> <li>Fire and heat can damage and derate key import/export transmission lines in Climate Zone 14.</li> <li>Coincidence of fire, heat, and cold exposure could justify upgrades addressing multiple hazards simultaneously (i.e. undergrounding, reconductoring, etc.)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Fire: Pole wrapping, vegetation management, Dx &amp; Tx undergrounding, and more (see slides 13, 14).</li> <li>Heat: Upgrade transformer capacity, install monitors &amp; sensors, DLR, etc. (see slides 26, 27).</li> <li>Cold: Decreased spans, pole upgrades, structure rebuilds, etc. (see slides 31, 33).</li> </ul>
15	Imperial	FIRE HEAT	<ul> <li>Climate Zone 15 is exposed to peak statewide fire exposure, posing a significant threat of utility-caused ignition and distribution infrastructure damage from fire spread.</li> <li>While Climate Zone 15 is historically exposed to heat, the frequency of extreme heat days is projected to increase drastically by end-century, causing high asset utilization, accelerated degradation, and direct component failure.</li> <li>Fire and heat can damage and derate key import/export transmission lines in Climate Zone 15.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Fire: Pole wrapping, vegetation management, Dx &amp; Tx undergrounding, covered conductors, and more (see slides 13, 14).</li> <li>Heat: Upgrade transformer capacity, install monitors &amp; sensors, DLR, distribution line undergrounding, etc. (see slides 26, 27).</li> </ul>
16	Alpine, Inyo, Lassen, Modoc, Mono, Plumas, Sierra, Siskiyou, Trinity	COLD FLOOD RAIN	<ul> <li>Climate Zone 16 is exposed to peak statewide cold exposure.</li> <li>Snow/icing cause mechanical loading on nearby vegetation and Tx/Dx lines themselves, contributing to outages.</li> <li>Significant flooding exposure poses a threat of inundation to ground-based substation equipment and uprooting of weak distribution poles.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Cold: Decreased spans, pole upgrades, structure rebuilds, etc. (see <u>slides 31, 33</u>).</li> <li>Flood: Flood walls, substation elevation, enclosures, control house remediation, pole upgrades (see <u>slides 18, 19</u>).</li> </ul>

## Wildfire

Asset Analysis

## Applicants could consider prioritizing southern counties for fire mitigations, balancing funding between highly exposed population centers and vulnerable Dx assets in rural counties

## California Summer Fire Weather Index (FWI)

Distribution Assets (Population), Historical



### **KEY OBSERVATIONS**

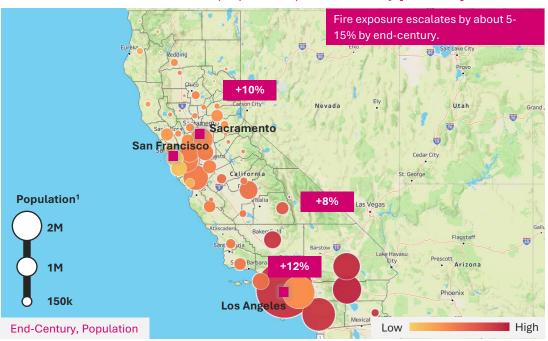
- Historical wildfire exposure is concentrated in California's southeastern counties, especially CZ-7/14.
- Southern population centers are heavily exposed to wildfire, posing a threat to a high density of Dx assets.
- While central counties (CZ-12/13) do not face peak fire exposure, high levels of drought could make fires difficult to extinguish.

Source: ClimRR, US Census Bureau, City and Town Population Totals

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## California Summer Fire Weather Index (FWI)

Distribution Assets (Population), End-Century [RCP-8.5]



### **KEY OBSERVATIONS**

 FWI increases by up to 8 points across the state, demonstrating the importance of utilizing forward-looking climate projections for statewide fire mitigation planning.



Los Angeles County Los Angeles County is exposed to FWI levels in the 99<sup>th</sup> percentile nationally, putting a large volume of distribution assets at risk.



## Distribution system adaptations and mitigations can vary in cost. Wildfire stands as a unique hazard due to high cost of ignition for utilities, potentially justifying more expensive solutions.

### California Summer Fire Weather Index (FWI)

Distribution Assets (Population), End-Century [RCP-8.5]



### **CERRI Dx SUGGESTIONS**

- Conducting asset-level vulnerability assessments is the optimal way of deriving cost-effectiveness of investment.
- Wildfire is unique in that cost of ignition is significantly high, making it easier to justify high-cost investments for even lower risk locations.
- Recent LA fires coupled with high FWI projections indicates high-cost investments could be beneficial in wildland-urban interface.

## **Cost Threshold**

Low-Cost

Projects (<\$50,000)

### 40101(d) Eligible Projects

- **Pole Upgrades:** Replacing wooden poles with more fire-resistant material like steel, concrete, etc.)
- **Pole Wrapping:** Wrapping poles with a fiberglass mesh covered in an intumescent coating.
- **Vegetation & Fuel Load Management:** Innovative vegetation management solutions (drone deployments, spot-trimming, etc.), problem tree trimming, fuel reduction.
- Reclosers, Circuit Breakers, Relays, Fuses: Detect and isolate faults automatically. When a transient fault occurs, such as a lightning strike or tree branch touching a power line, the recloser temporarily opens the circuit to clear the fault and then automatically closes again. Supports robust PSPS programs.
- Reconductoring: Replacing existing conductors with new more efficient ones (e.g. ACCC). Improves insulation of conductors such that they are less flammable or can better withstand high temperatures.
- ΨΨ High-Cost Projects

(>\$50,000)

- **Undergrounding:** Reinstalling conductors underground to prevent ignition and damage during wildfire.
- Covered Conductors: Covering conductors with insulating materials can reduce faults related to extreme heat (sagging of lines), ignition during wildfires, corrosion, wind damage from lines touching, or trees falling on lines. Covered conductors can also protect line workers.

Source: Grid Deployment Office "Low-Cost Grid Resilience Projects"



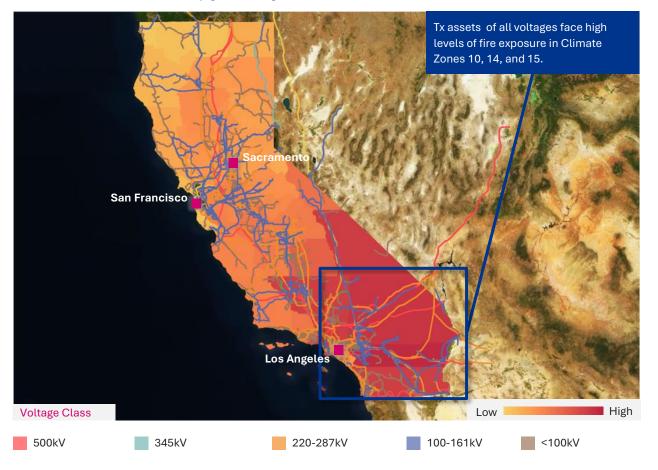
<sup>\*</sup>Projects outside of the most exposed climate zones are still eligible for 40101(d) funding

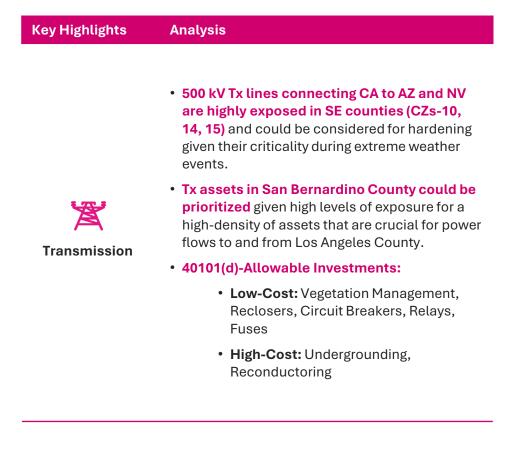
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## Applicants could consider hardening projects for critical import/export HV Tx lines in Climate Zones 10, 14, and 15 that face peak state-wide wildfire exposure

## **California Summer Fire Weather Index (FWI)**

Transmission, Mid-Century [RCP-8.5]





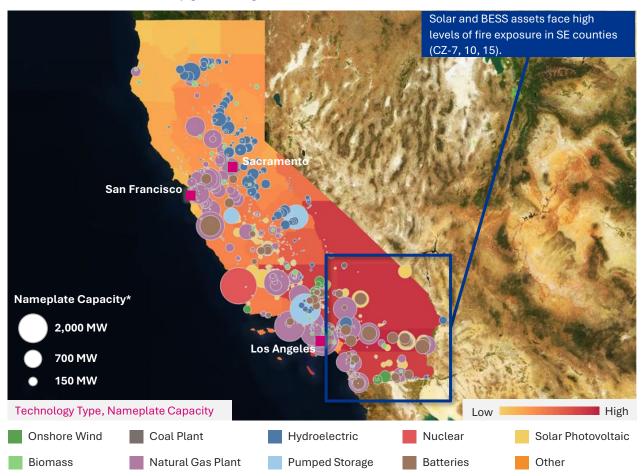


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## Applicants could prioritize hardening projects for solar/BESS assets in Climate Zones 10, 14, and 15 that face severe wildfire exposure, posing a threat of derating or thermal runaway

## **California Summer Fire Weather Index (FWI)**

Generators, Mid-Century [RCP-8.5]



Limited applicable wildfire investments under 40101(d)

## Solar assets in San Bernardino, Riverside, and other southeastern counties (CZ-10, 14, 15) are highly exposed to fire. Soot and ash from burns decreases capacity factors solar assets by collecting on panels and reducing irradiance.



- Wildfire may also pose a threat of thermal runaway and degradation to a high volume of BESS assets in S counties (CZ-10, 15).
- 40101(d)-Allowable Investments for BESS:
  - High-Cost: Resilience-focused BESS projects with alternative chemistries (i.e. non Li-ion, flow batteries), innovative battery enclosures, upgraded fire suppression/ thermal management systems (variable cost based on size of system)

<sup>\*</sup>Generator nameplate capacities may exceed those shown in the legend



## Flood

Asset Analysis

## Applicants could consider projects fortifying low-lying Dx substations and weak Dx poles in northern counties (CZ-1, 2, 16) and continue to monitor future flooding severity

## California Average Annual Surface Runoff (mm/year) Historical [SSP5-8.5]



### **KEY OBSERVATIONS**

- Surface runoff mainly captures pluvial flooding risk, or flooding that occurs when heavy rainfall overwhelms the ground's absorption capacity.
- Flooding exposure generally increases from south to north throughout the state given N CA's higher precipitation levels and abundance of rivers (CZ-1, 2, 16).
- Low soil permeability in S CA could increase the risk of pluvial flooding.

Source: ClimRR, US Census Bureau, City and Town Population Totals

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## California Average Annual Surface Runoff (mm/year) End-Century [SSP5-8.5]



### **KEY OBSERVATIONS**

 Applicants could prioritize projects to fortify low-lying Dx substations in north-central counties (CZ-11) facing increasing flood exposure over time.



Flood exposure is projected to increase ~26% by endcentury, posing a substantial threat to a significant volume of substations and distribution poles.



## Most flood risk accrues to ground-level assets (transformers, control house, etc.). Long outage restoration times and expensive equipment failures could justify high-cost investments.

## California Average Annual Surface Runoff (mm/year)



### **CERRI Dx SUGGESTIONS**

- Most of the equipment impacted by flooding are ground-level substation components (HV transformers, control house, etc.). This equipment is expensive, with often long lead times.
- High failure cost could justify high-cost adaptations at highly specific locations.
- Conducting asset-level vulnerability assessments is the optimal way of deriving cost-effectiveness of investment.

\*Projects outside of the most exposed climate zones are still eligible for 40101(d) funding

Cost Threshold

40101(d) Eligible Projects

Low-Cost Projects (<\$50,000)

- **Pole Upgrades:** Replacing wooden poles with more weather-resistant material (steel, concrete, etc.).
- Flood Walls: Building walls to prevent flood waters from entering substation.

High-Cost Projects (>\$50,000)

- **Enclosures:** Building enclosures around critical equipment that are exposed to elements.
- Substation Elevation: Raising the substation on pylons or concrete surfaces.
- Control House Remediation: Upgrading control houses to current building codes and flood adaptation standards.

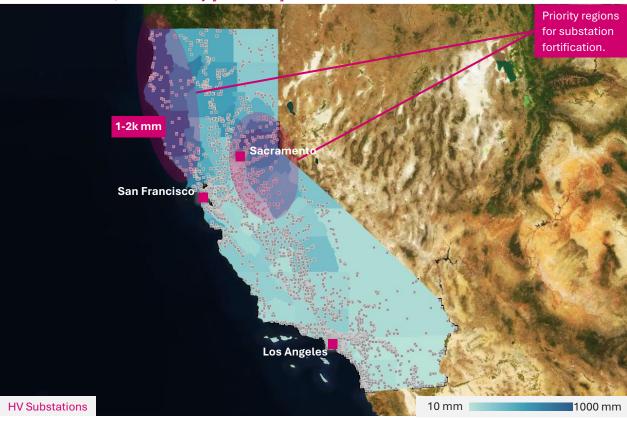
Source: Grid Deployment Office "Low-Cost Grid Resilience Projects"



## Applicants could consider HV substation fortification in N counties (CZ-1, 2, 16), particularly two pockets centered around Nevada and Humboldt Counties

### **California Average Annual Surface Runoff (mm/year)**

HV Substations, Mid-Century [SSP5-8.5]



**Key Highlights Analysis** • High-voltage substations will be exposed to fluvial flooding if located in a flood plain or riverbank without necessary protections. Significant pockets of HV substations will be exposed to flooding in N counties (see map) and could be considered for elevation, enclosure, or other fortifications. • 40101(d)-Allowable Investments: **Substation**  Low-Cost: Flood Walls • High-Cost: Enclosures, Substation Elevation, Control House Remediation (i.e. structural elevation, equipment upgrades, proper insulation/sealing, structural repairs)





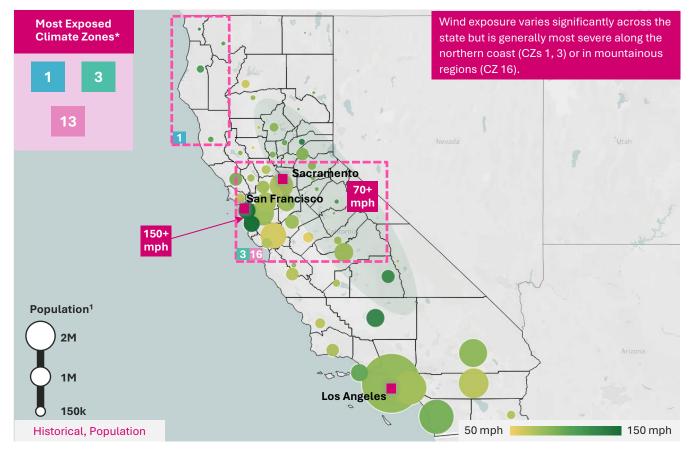
## Wind

Asset Analysis

## Vegetation management and Dx pole upgrades could be prioritized for rural counties along the Sierra Nevada range and investigated in the above-ground residential networks in the Bay Area

### California 100-year Wind Speed (mph)

Historical



## **Key Highlights Analysis** • Given weak climate signals, wind speeds are derived using historical data and do not vary at high spatial resolution. • 40101(d)-Allowable Investments: Low-Cost: Pole Reinforcement (Trussing, Guy Cables, Concrete Base, etc.), Pole Material Distribution Upgrades, Decreased Span, Break Away Disconnect, Vegetation Management • High-Cost: Undergrounding · Wind exposure is generally high in counties along the Sierra Nevada mountain range (CZ 16).

damaged.

Sierra

Nevada

**Mountains** 

Asset owners could consider Dx pole

prolonged outages if radial lines are

reinforcements and veg. management

in these rural counties given the risk for

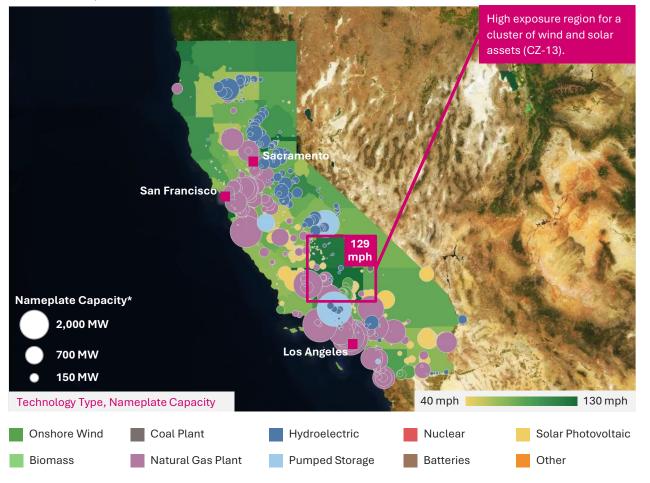


<sup>\*</sup>Projects outside of the most exposed climate zones are still eligible for 40101(d) funding

## Asset owners could consider weatherization upgrades for renewable assets in Kern County to address high wind exposure

### California 100-year Wind Speed (mph)

Generation, Historical



<ul> <li>A pocket of solar farms in Kern and Los Angeles Counties are exposed to high return values &gt;90 mph.</li> <li>Depending on the OEM, solar panels are only rated to 90 mph, indicating need for rack reinforcement and vegetation</li> </ul>
management. • 40101(d)-Allowable Investments:
<ul> <li>Low-Cost: Through-Bolting, Higher Grade Steel, Three-Rail Racking System, Wind-Calming Fence</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Wind farms cutout speeds can vary between 45-70 mph, indicating that in high wind speed events, the turbines stop producing.</li> <li>A cluster of wind farms in Kern County are exposed to 100-year return values significantly higher than typical cutout thresholds, diminishing critical supply near load centers during extreme wind events.</li> <li>40101(d)-Allowable Investments:         <ul> <li>High-Cost: Wind Direction Controls</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

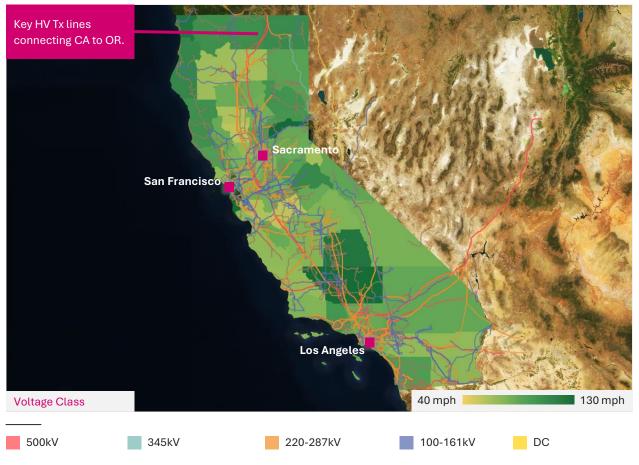
<sup>\*</sup>Generator nameplate capacities may exceed those shown in the legend



## HV Tx lines in Modoc County and a dense transmission junction in Kern County are exposed to high wind speed return values and could be considered for structure reinforcement

### California 100-year Wind Speed (mph)

Transmission, Historical



Key Highlights	Analysis	
	<ul> <li>A pair of 500kV Tx lines in Modoc County are exposed to wind speed return values &gt;100mph.</li> </ul>	
₩	<ul> <li>Applicants could consider reinforcing Tx structures or decreasing spans along these lines given their critical connection to OR, which allows for the import of low-cost hydroelectric power and export of CA solar.</li> </ul>	
Transmission	<ul> <li>Large junction of N-S transmission lines in Kern and Tulare Counties experience high wind exposure. Given that this region has coincident wildfire risk, asset owners could investigate vegetation management, structure reinforcement, or ongoing maintenance practices to also prevent ignition.</li> <li>40101(d)-Allowable Investments:</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Low-Cost: Decreased Spans, Vegetation Management</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>High-Cost: Undergrounding, Structure Rebuild</li> </ul>	



## Heat

Asset Analysis

## Applicants could consider Dx substation and transformer upgrades to combat increasing heat exposure, especially in CZs-12, 13 which are not historically exposed to extreme temperatures

California Days Above 105 °F Distribution Assets (Population), Historical



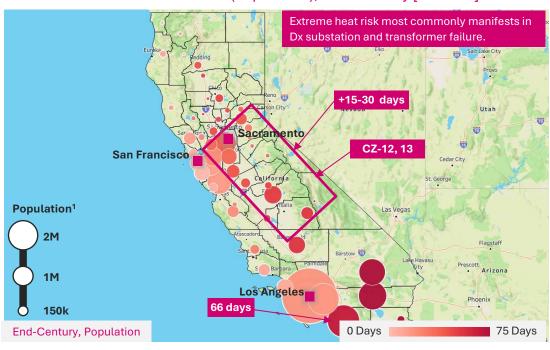
### **KEY OBSERVATIONS**

- Historically, exposure to days > 105 °F is concentrated in southern counties (CZ-7, 10, 14, 15), while much of the eastern half of the state faces moderate exposure to this threshold.
- 105 °F is an important threshold for distribution assets and substations, which can fail when exposed to two consecutive days above 104 °F.<sup>2</sup>

Source: ClimRR, US Census Bureau, City and Town Population Totals

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California Days Above 105 °F Distribution Assets (Population), End-Century [RCP-8.5]



### **KEY OBSERVATIONS**

By end-century, nearly every county is exposed to a significant number of days > 105 °F annually, causing high asset utilization, derating, and potential failure.



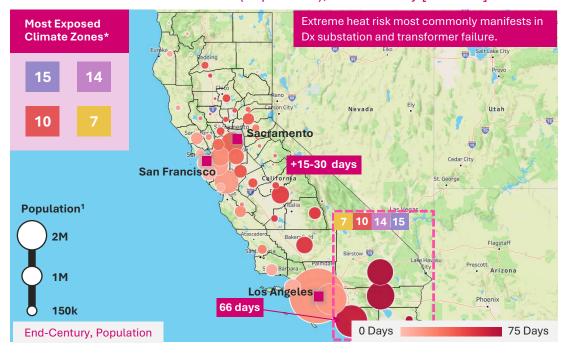
San Diego Escalation from 17 to 66 days of extreme heat exposure necessitates substation, transformer, and Dx line upgrades to mitigate potential failure and avoid derating.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Population bubbles are continuous and therefore labels are approximate. <sup>2</sup>EPRI Climate READi

## Areas of high heat risk coupled with increased projected demand could justify high-cost infrastructure investments. Low-cost alternatives exist in intermediate risk regions.

California Days Above 105 °F
Distribution Assets (Population), End-Century [RCP-8.5]



### **CERRI Dx SUGGESTIONS**

- Extreme heat increases asset degradation through utilization and increased system load through heightened cooling demand.
- In areas of high heat risk and projected new demand (housing developments, data centers, EVs, etc.), higher cost investments could be justified.
- Low-cost alternatives are good options to yield higher capacity and increased reliability without having to invest in large infrastructure changes.

Cost Threshold

40101(d) Eligible Projects

determining real-time thermal capacity ratings from weather.

Vegetation Management: Removing encroaching vegetation

Low-Cost Projects (<\$50,000) • **Vegetation Management:** Removing encroaching vegetation that violates clearance during line sag events.

• Dynamic Line Rating (DLR): Increases capacity of line by

- Monitors & Sensors: Monitors and sensors increase situational awareness on the system and improve asset health analytics. For example, investing in temperature monitors for a substation that serves a large development would ensure the single pathway of power into the community is maintained.
- Upgrading Transformer Capacity: Installing higher capacity transformers to accommodate new system peaks and increased demand. Upgrading should account for both extreme weather events and general system demand growth.

High-Cost Projects (\$50,000)

- Reconductoring: Replacing existing conductors with new, more
  efficient ones (e.g., ACCC). Improves insulation of conductors
  such that they are less flammable or can better withstand high
  temperatures.
- **Undergrounding:** Reinstalling conductors underground to prevent ignition and damage during wildfire.
- Covered Conductors: Covering conductors with insulating materials can reduce faults related to extreme heat (sagging of lines), ignition during wildfires, corrosion, wind damage from lines touching, or trees falling on lines. Covered conductors can also protect line workers.

Source: Grid Deployment Office "Low-Cost Grid Resilience Projects"

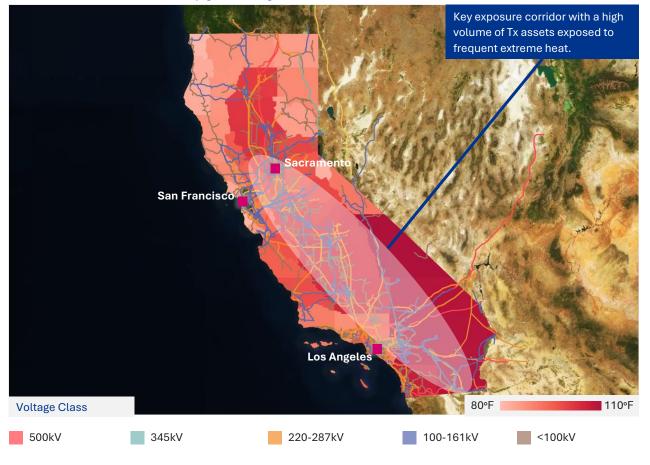


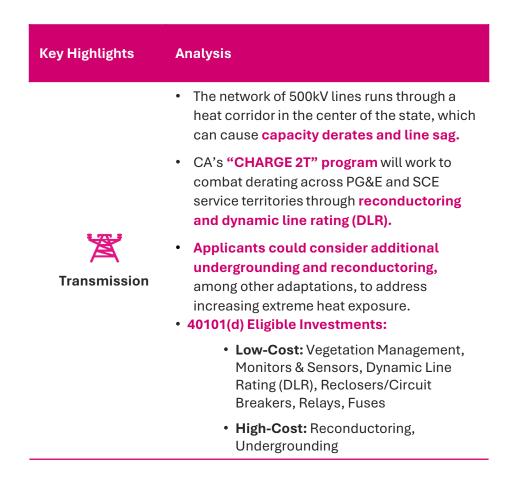
<sup>\*</sup>Projects outside of the most exposed climate zones are still eligible for 40101(d) funding

## Applicants could consider reconductoring or grid-enhancing technologies to increase the capacity of southern Tx lines that are likely to derate due to extreme heat exposure

### California Summer Average Maximum Temperature (°F)

Transmission, Mid-Century [RCP-8.5]



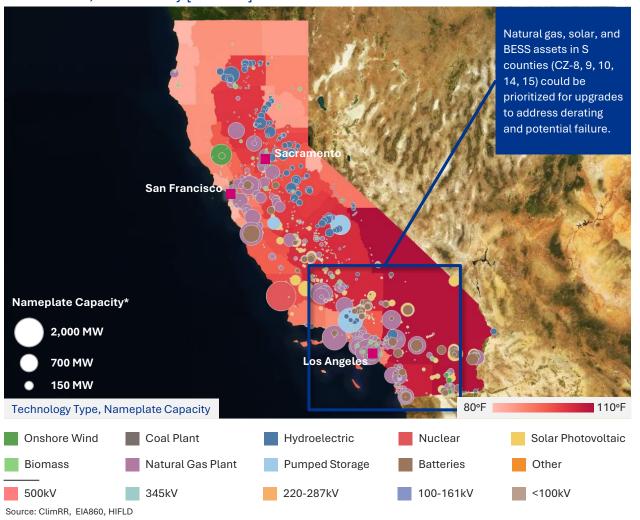




## Asset owners could explore flexible capacity options such as expanded VPP programs to address significant extreme heat exposure and associated derating

## California Summer Average Maximum Temperature (°F)

Generators, Mid-Century [RCP-8.5]



**Key Highlights Analysis** • Thermoelectric generators that rely on waterbased cooling methods will experience production derates as extreme heat raises average water temperatures. • 40101(d) Eligible Investments: **Thermoelectric** • High-Cost: Back-Up BESS



- High temperatures accelerate BESS degradation.
- 40101(d) Eligible Investments:
  - · Low-Cost: Distributed controls and sensors to manage existing DERs
  - · High-Cost: Development of microgrids that enhance system adaptative capacity during disruptive events

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Solar & BESS

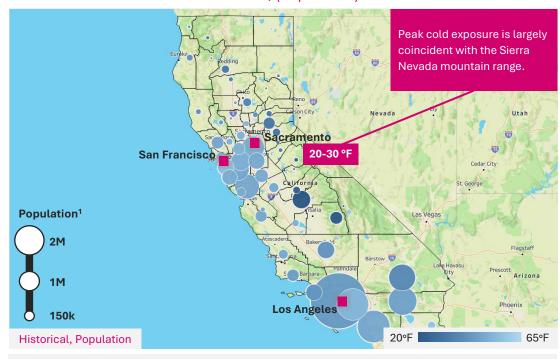
## Cold

Asset Analysis

## Applicants could consider Dx pole upgrades and undergrounding projects to address cold exposure, especially in E counties that face continued sub-freezing minimum temperatures

## California Average Annual Minimum Temperature (°F)

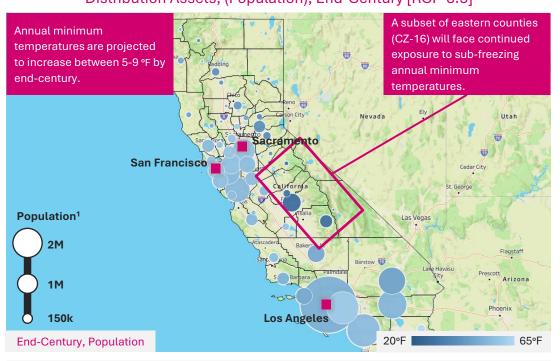
Distribution Assets, (Population) Historical



### **KEY OBSERVATIONS**

- Cold exposure is concentrated in E counties (CZ-13, 16), especially along the Sierra Nevada mountains, where below-freezing annual minimum temperatures and high levels of snowfall pose a threat to Dx assets.
- Applicants could consider Dx pole upgrades and substation enclosures to combat snow loading and potential freezing in E counties.

## California Average Annual Minimum Temperature (°F) Distribution Assets, (Population), End-Century [RCP-8.5]



### **KEY OBSERVATIONS**

Climate projections cannot predict acute extreme events like polar vortices and winter storms, underrepresenting cold exposure.



County

Despite warming, Fresno County faces continued subfreezing annual minimum temperatures, posing a threat of icing and snow loading to a high volume of Dx assets.



## When coupled with precipitation and wind, cold events cause failures that could be mitigated by low-cost investments. Regions with multi-hazard risk could underground equipment.

## California Average Annual Minimum Temperature (°F)

Distribution Assets, (Population), End-Century [RCP-8.5]



### **CERRI Dx SUGGESTIONS**

- When coupled with extreme wind and precipitation, cold events can cause line failures, often due to falling vegetation and debris, making vegetation management an apt low-cost investment in risk areas.
- Regions that are exposed to multiple hazards such as cold, wildfire, heat, could
  justify high-cost investments like undergrounding given high avoided costs.

Cost Threshold

40101(d) Eligible Projects

Low-Cost Projects (<\$50,000)

- **Vegetation Management:** Removing encroaching vegetation that prove problematic under load from ice accumulation.
- **Pole Upgrades:** Replacing wooden poles with material like steel, concrete, etc. that can withstand higher mechanical loads.
- **Dead-End Structures:** Installing poles where tension is applied on one side, decreasing the likelihood of cascading failures.
- **Decreased Span:** Increasing the number of poles on a line section, decreasing the distance between poles.

High-Cost Projects (>\$50,000)

• **Undergrounding:** Reinstalling conductors underground to prevent failure from ice accumulation and other hazards.

\*Projects outside of the most exposed climate zones are still eligible for 40101(d) funding

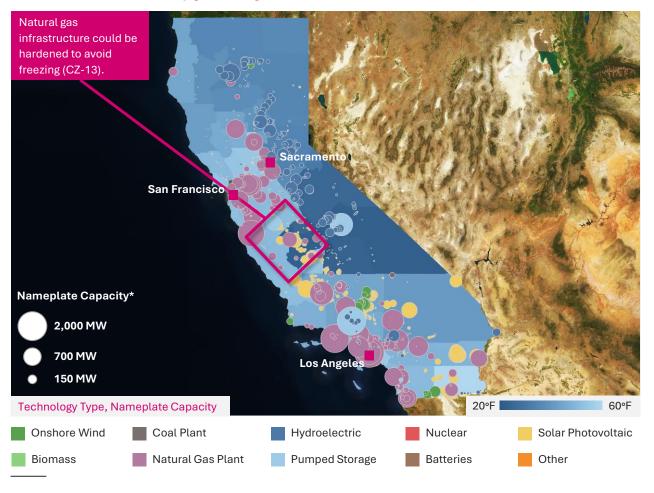
Source: <u>Grid Deployment Office "Low-Cost Grid Resilience Projects"</u>



## Applicants could evaluate whether natural gas assets in Climate Zone 13 are sufficiently hardened to avoid freezing or snow damage.

### California Average Annual Minimum Temperature (°F)

Generators, Mid-Century [RCP-8.5]



# Key Highlights Asset owners could evaluate whether plants and pipelines have sufficient heating infrastructure to prevent wellhead freeze-offs or ignition failures. 40101(d) Eligible Investments: Low-Cost: Anti-Icing Materials and Coatings, Cold Weather Package, Thermal Insulation High-Cost: Engine and Other Components (Crankshafts, Valves, Filters, Pumps, etc.)

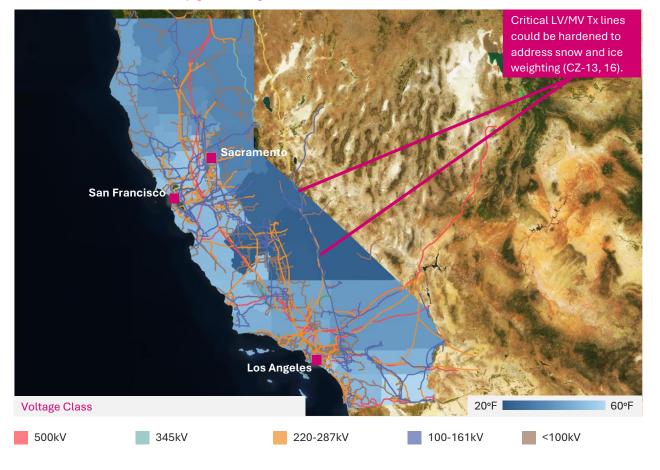
\*Generator nameplate capacities may exceed those shown in the legend

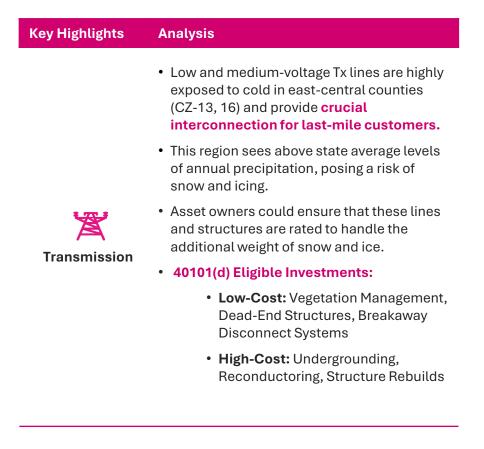


## Applicants could ensure that Tx lines providing interconnection to last-mile customers in Inyo and Mono Counties are sufficiently hardened to withstand snow/ice accumulation

### California Average Annual Minimum Temperature (°F)

Generators, Mid-Century [RCP-8.5]







## **Appendix**

## **Grid Resilience Reports**

Climate Science Background, Data Sources, and Analysis Approach

### RCPs and SSPs provide viable climate pathways for an uncertain future

### ipcc

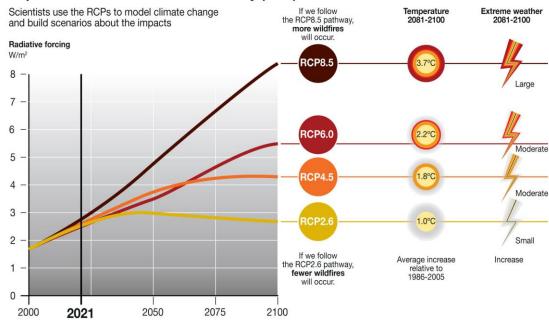
### **Generating Emission Scenarios**

- Representative concentration pathways (RCPs) project GHG concentrations: Defined by the IPCC in 2014 as scenarios of future emission concentrations and other radiative forcing that align to climate projections. 1 RCPs use assumptions relating to policy decisions and individual behavior that may change future GHG emissions concentrations. 1 SSPs have largely replaced RCPs.
- Shared socioeconomic pathways (SSPs) provide 5 'storylines' to contextualize RCPs and to provide the various future pathways possible.<sup>2</sup> They consider how the world could evolve socioeconomically and politically, including how various levels of climate change mitigation and adaptation could be achieved and will influence future climate scenarios.3
- RCPs included in the CLIMRR dataset include RCP 4.5 and RCP 8.5.
- SSPs included in the Hydrosource dataset include SSP585, SSP370, SSP245, and SSP126.

### Modeling Scenario: RCP 4.5

- "Moderate" scenario: Emissions peak around 2040 and then slowly begin to decline.<sup>4</sup> Temperatures warm about 3.2 °F from a 2000 baseline.<sup>5</sup>
- CO2 emissions plateau before falling mid-century, as energy use sharply declines and there is large scale reforestation. 6

### Representative Concentration Pathway (RCP)



GRID-Arendal/Studio Atlantis, 2021

### **Modeling Scenario: RCP 8.5**

- "Rapid growth" scenario: Emissions continue to rise throughout the twenty-first century.4 Temperatures warm about 6.6 °F from a 2000 baseline. 5
- CO2 emissions are three times higher than the present by end-century, with a large increase in methane emissions and continued fossil fuel use. 6



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Source: ComEd Vulnerability Study 2023 <sup>4</sup> Source: Help (cal-adapt.org)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Source: Jupiter

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Source: Carbon Brief

<sup>5</sup> CoastAdapt

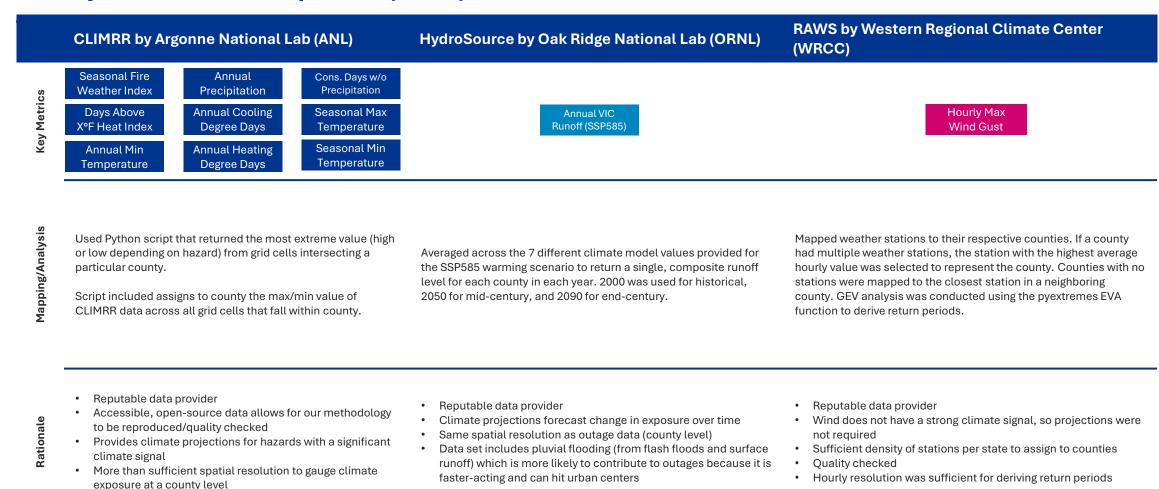
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Climate Copernicus

### Baringa leverages national downscaled climate datasets with high granularity to assign county-level climate exposure

	CLIMRR by Argonne National Lab (ANL)	HydroSource by Oak Ridge National Lab (ORNL)	RAWS by Western Regional Climate Center (WRCC)
Dataset Description	The Climate Risk and Resilience Portal (CLIMRR) provides highly localized climate projections from mid- to end-century using a supercomputer to model 60 climate variables.	HydroSource is a comprehensive national water energy digital platform consisting of hydropower-related data set, models, visualizations, and analytics tools.	The Wildland Fire Remote Automated Weather Stations (RAWS) data set provided by WRCC is a quality-controlled repository of hourly data for 17 select weather metrics from a network of weather stations across western states.
Data Provider Description	Argonne National Lab is a federally-funded science and engineering research center sponsored by the Department of Energy.	Oak Ridge National Lab is a federally funded research and development center sponsored by the Department of Energy.	The Western Regional Climate Center is one of 6 Regional Climate Centers in the United States. WRCC works jointly with NOAA to coordinate climate activities and conduct applied research on climate issues in the West.
Years	Historical, Mid-Century, End-Century	1980-2099	2000-2022
Spatial Resolution	12 km (aggregated to county)	County	Weather station (aggregated to county)
Hazards	RAIN FIRE HEAT COLD DROUGHT	FLOOD	WIND



# Baringa leverages national downscaled climate datasets with high granularity to assign county-level climate exposure (cont.)





## Baringa is leveraging forward-looking climate projections to inform its technical assistance work for states in WECC



### Wind

Source: Western Regional Climate Center (WRCC)

Input metric: Hourly max wind

speed (mph)

Output: Wind speed at key return

periods via GEV distribution



### Wildfire

• Source: CLIMRR (ANL)

**Input metric:** Fire weather index

(FWI) by grid cell

Output: Maximum fire weather

index by county



### **Precipitation**

Source: CLIMRR (ANL)

**Input metric:** Annual total precipitation (in/year) by grid cell

Output: Max annual total

precipitation (in/year) by county



### **Drought**

Source: CLIMRR (ANL)

Input metric: Consecutive days with no precipitation by grid cell
Output: Max consecutive days with no precipitation by county



### Heat

Source: CLIMRR (ANL)

### Input metrics:

- Days above 95, 105, 115, 125 °F
- Annual cooling degree days
- Seasonal maximum temperatures

**Output:** Input metrics applied from a grid cell level to a county level



### Cold

Source: CLIMRR (ANL)

### Input metrics:

- · Annual minimum temperature
- · Annual heating degree days
- Seasonal minimum temperatures

**Output:** Input metrics applied from a grid cell level to a county level



### Flood

Source: Hydrosource (ORNL)

Input metric: Annual Variable Infiltration Capacity (VIC) model

runoff (mm/year)

**Output:** Average annual VIC runoff (pluvial flooding) for 4 warming scenarios and 3 time periods (historical, mid-century, end-century)



### Increasing granularity of analysis at the customer feeder would require conducting asset-level vulnerability assessments using utility-sourced outage and component data.

STRATEGIC **ASSET VULNERABILITY CLIMATE-ADJUSTED ASSET ANALYSIS ASSESSMENT ASSET INVESTMENT PLAN RESILIENCE JOURNEY** Qualitative assessment of future risk Quantitative assessment of future risk in dollars **Economic assessment** of cost-benefit tradeoffs Historical Data or **Climate Data** High-Res Projections (90m-3km) High-Res Projections (90m-3km) Best practice: Coarse Projections (15 -25km) GPS Coordinates (lat/longs), design standards, GPS Coordinates (lat/longs), design standards, Publicly available **Asset Data** costs of failure including value of lost load costs of failure including value of lost load Failure Mode By asset class Asset level Asset level **Analysis** Increased modeling complexity Risk Score **Financial** NA Quantified dollars of risk Best practice: Quantified dollars of risk **Impact Prioritizes adaptations based** Investment Quantitative, based on avoided risk only NA, directional analysis **Substantiation** on NPV of investments **Industry examples GRACI:** Grid SCE: CAVA **Examples:** Resilience Reports Report are in development

**STRATEGIC** 

**INCREASED EFFICIENCY OF CAPITAL ALLOCATION** 

**INVESTMENT-**GRADE



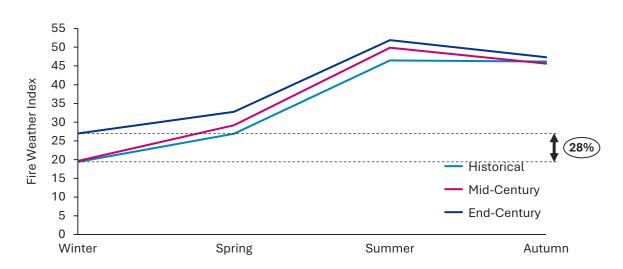
## **Statistical Analysis**

Statistical insights and hazard trends

# Fire exposure increases slightly by mid-century during summer, but intensifies more significantly by end-century from winter-summer, shortening the maintenance window

### California Average Seasonal Fire Weather Index (FWI)

Population-Weighted by County [RCP-8.5]

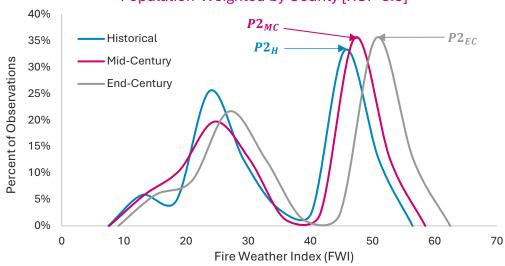


#### **KEY OBSERVATIONS**

- End-century wildfire exposure is elevated, with the sharpest increase occurring in the winter by about 28% from historical FWI.
- Elevated wildfire exposure from winter through summer indicates a **lengthening of the wildfire season,** starting earlier in the calendar year.
- The change in length of wildfire season suggests that the window for scheduled maintenance during the shoulder seasons is diminishing, especially in the winter and spring.

### **California Fire Weather Index Statistical Distribution (FWI)**

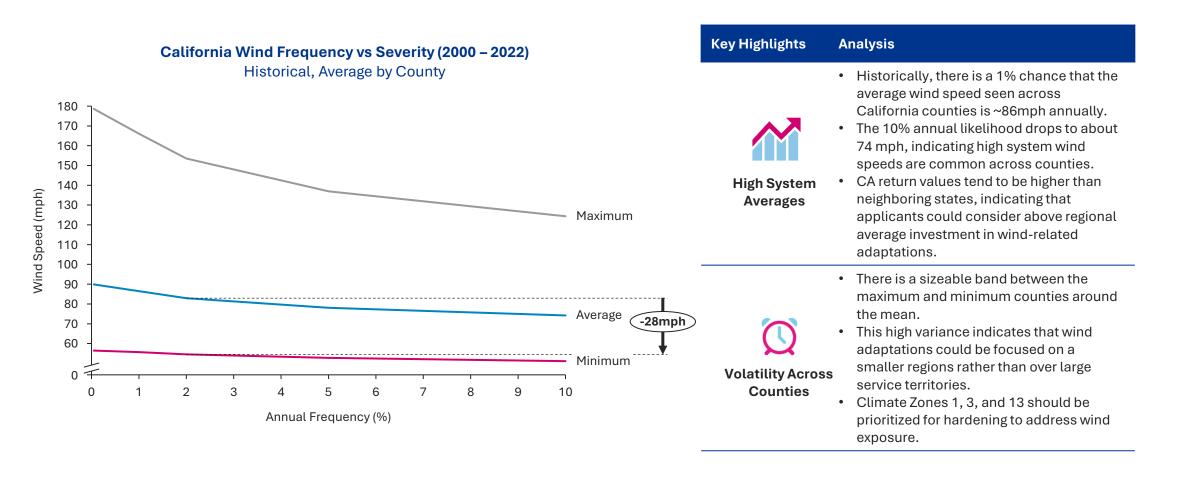
Population-Weighted by County [RCP-8.5]



- Rightward shifts of the curves indicates increasing severity of wildfire exposure over time, particularly in the most exposed regions.
- Increased height of P2 (Peak 2) over time indicates that a larger spatial extent will be exposed to the high FWI levels (~45/50).
- Bi-modal shape represents **two distinct regions of fire exposure in the state,** a lower exposure region (N/NW) facing FWI levels around 20-30, and a high exposure region (S/SE) exposed to levels around 40-50.



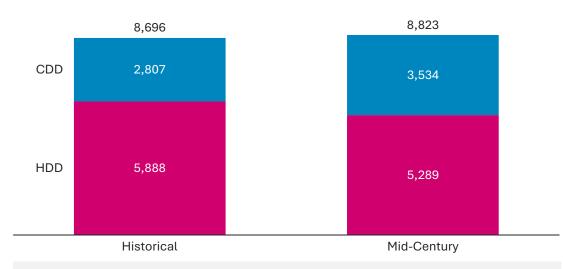
# Historically, there is a 1% chance that the average wind speed seen across California counties is ~86 mph annually





### Increasing exposure to extreme heat may contribute to derating, capacity violations, and substation failure, indicating the need for hardening in newly exposed portions of the state

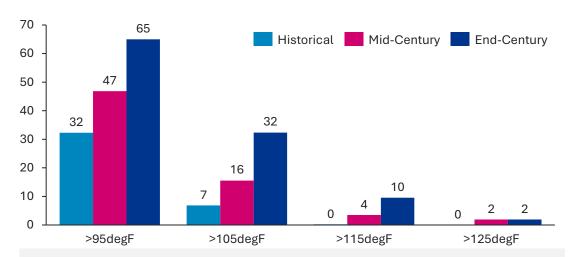
### California Average Annual Cooling & Heating Degree Days (CDD & HDD) Population-Weighted by County [RCP-8.5]



#### **KEY OBSERVATIONS**

- Between historical and mid-century, the ratio of CDD to HDD increases, with the share of the average number of CDD jumping from about 48% to 67%.
- This results in increased summer asset utilization and degradation, but impacts to winter utilization remain unclear depending on heating electrification trends.
- Given the larger populations of southern counties, this metric could underrepresent cold exposure for northern asset owners.

### California Average Annual Days Exceeding Daily Max Heat Index Thresholds Population-Weighted by County [RCP-8.5]



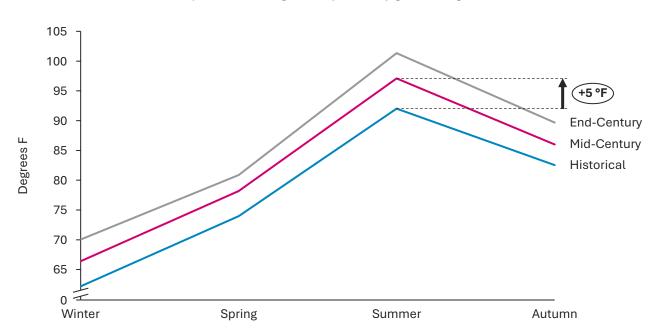
- Increasing extreme heat exposure will cause an increase in peak load and likely contribute to derating and capacity violations for Tx and thermal generating units.
- Over 2x increase in days > 105 °F by mid-century poses a substantial risk to distribution substations, which can fail after two consecutive days above 104 °F without sufficient cooling infrastructure.
- Increasing state-wide averages indicates that new regions will be exposed to extreme heat and could be prioritized for upgrades.



# Average summer temperature maximums are projected to increase by mid-century, increasing the duration and magnitude of high system utilization

### California Average Seasonal Maximum Temperature (°F)

Population-Weighted by County [RCP-8.5]



### Key Highlights

### **Analysis**



Heat risk increases most drastically in summer, with a 5 °F increase in the average seasonal max by mid-century, increasing system utilization and accelerating degradation.



Shorter Shoulder Seasons

 Warming is generally less pronounced in shoulder seasons, although increased spring and autumn maximums could extend the duration of high system utilization and shorten maintenance windows.



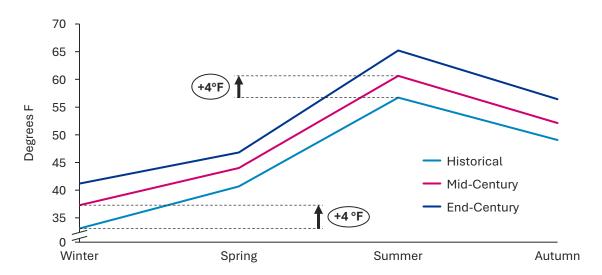
Extreme Heat

Average summer maximums reaching 97
 °F by mid-century and 101 °F by endcentury indicates an increasing
frequency of extreme temperatures that
can cause significant derating, capacity
violations, and direct failure across all
asset classes.



# Despite a general warming of minimum temperatures, exposure to extreme cold may persist in some portions of the state given relatively constant average annual minimum temperatures

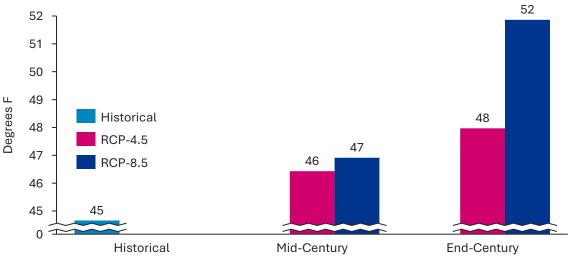
## California Average Seasonal Minimum Temperature (°F) Population-Weighted by County [RCP-8.5]



### **KEY OBSERVATIONS**

- Significant winter warming (+4 °F by mid-century) could decrease overall heating load, but the impact on electricity demand ultimately depends on the speed of heating electrification.
- Summer minimums remaining around 65 °F indicates that assets may be able to cool overnight, but this could be monitored at a county-level.
- Resilience upgrades like undergrounding, covered conductors, or cable upgrades can address heat and cold exposure simultaneously.

## California Average Annual Minimum Temperature (°F) Population-Weighted by County [RCP-4.5, RCP-8.5]

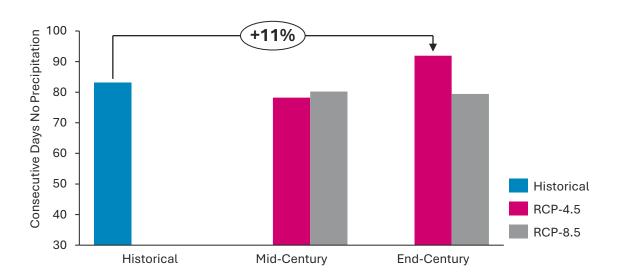


- Only about 3 °F of annual minimum temperature warming (RCP-4.5) indicates that cold exposure could persist to end-century.
- Diverging temperature projections by end-century demonstrates projection uncertainty and the importance of continued monitoring.
- Regarding extreme cold, global climate models do not resolve for extreme cold events like polar vortexes, so assets could still face similar levels of exposure to cold-related failures.



# Drought exposure is generally projected to stay constant over time, but divergence at the county level could be monitored closely to determine the impact on electricity generation

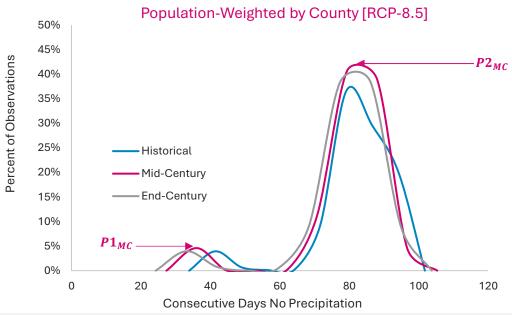
California Average Annual Consecutive Days with No Precipitation Population-Weighted by County [RCP 4.5, RCP-8.5]



#### **KEY OBSERVATIONS**

- Projections indicate relatively constant average state-wide drought levels, although this obfuscates increases and decreases projected at the county level.
- Higher drought exposure for RCP-4.5 than RCP-8.5 demonstrates that drought risk does not scale linearly with temperature.
- Diverging trends across counties and warming scenarios indicates that asset owners could monitor drought exposure at the local level.

## California Average Consecutive Days with No Precipitation Statistical Distribution



- Leftward shift of P1 (Peak 1) indicates that drought exposure will become less severe in the least exposed regions of the state.
- Increasing height of P2 (Peak 2) by mid-century indicates that more of the population will be exposed to about 80 cons. days w/o precipitation.
- The kink in the historical curve around 100 days indicates that the most exposed regions will face decreasing severity of drought exposure by mid-century and end-century by a small margin.

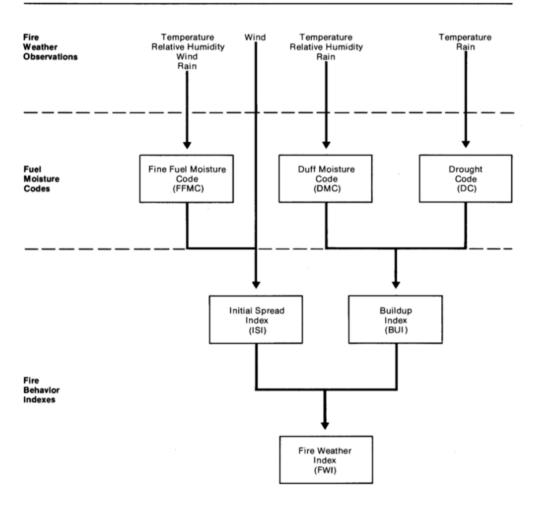


## Fire Weather Index Explainer

Background on Fire Weather Index Methodology

# Fire Weather Index synthesizes weather and moisture content data into a normalized value representing the danger of fire spread once ignition has occurred.

### Structure of the Canadian Forest Fire Weather Index System



#### **KEY TAKEAWAYS**

- FWI is a useful metric for evaluating weather-based conditions that heighten the danger of wildfire spread once ignition has occurred.
- Initial Spread Index: Measures the expected rate of fire spread, based on wind speed and moisture content of fine fuels/forest litter (Fine Fuel Moisture Code).
- Buildup Index: Measures the total amount of forest fuel available for consumption, based on the moisture content of intermediate organic layers, such as decomposing plant matter (Duff Moisture Code), and the moisture content of deep organic layers and soils, which corresponds to drought measures (Drought Code).
- Daily FWI values were calculated using readings from Argonne's downscaled 12km climate data and averaged annually or seasonally across RCP-4.5 and RCP-8.5.
- Percentiles (below) were calculated based on FWI values across all 12km grid cells in the contiguous U.S.

FWI Class	Percentile range in historical period	FWI values in Class
Low	0–25 <sup>th</sup> percentile	0–9 FWI
Medium	25–50 <sup>th</sup> percentile	9–21 FWI
High	50–75 <sup>th</sup> percentile	21–34 FWI
Very High	75–90 <sup>th</sup> percentile	34–39 FWI
Extreme	90–98 <sup>th</sup> percentile	39–53 FWI
Very Extreme	Above 98th percentile	Above 53 FWI

