

## **Conclusion: In Closing...**

Wildfires are a part of nature's way of promoting biological diversity and healthy ecosystems. While they are an integral part of nature, the conditions in which a fire can grow are becoming more and more life threatening. Due to climate change and rising temperatures, fires are growing in size and causing more property damage and taking human lives. By analyzing our data we were able to conclude quite a lot, such as fire size and frequency have in fact increased over the 23 year period. We are also able to draw a reasonable conclusion that climate change and human interference has affected wildfires over time. Using categorization and machine learning we were able to find new statistics to warn against the dangers of climate change and repair of our infrastructure. States like Alaska, suffered the greatest number of extra large sized wildfires due to natural causes like Lightning. The number of these fires increased from just 3 in 1992 to 129 in 2015. While normally fire activity in large forested areas is often left alone as they are not a threat, when a fire grows too large it

can threaten developed property. And when we look at the overall square acreage burned nationwide it has increased to over 5 million square acres burned which is an astounding seven times as much as was burned in 1992. It is not all large fires that are increasing, the state of Georgia had the most small fires due to causes that were entirely human cases such as unchecked debris burning and arson. Which also brings attention to the category Utilities which went up considerably from 12 in 1992 to 102 in 2015. These fires are completely preventable with proper attention and maintenance to our deteriorating power grid. While we cannot and should not stop wildfires we can call attention to this major issue and demand change. Commissions responsible for oversight and power companies responsible for servicing their equipment need to act, this is not a problem to be solved overnight however change is possible and should begin as soon as possible. We have links to charities on our site to help those affected by the tragedy of wildfire and contacting your local government representative will also help to improve oversight for

infrastructure. Thank you for your time and attention, we would like to now open the floor to any questions.