
TREC IS USER PROFILE

WILDFIRE

User Description

The user is a public safety officer in the central command and control centre for managing a wildfire event. The user has two main responsibilities:

1. To identify actionable information that the other officers can use to direct their response efforts. This might be information such as identification of hot areas and making sure people have evacuated in the correct regions.
2. To answer questions that the public might have about the event or what to do. This might be questions about what they should do, or where they should go. The officer may also need to interject in conversations, to correct inaccurate advice.

Existing Knowledge

It is assumed that the officer already has some existing information about the event, and hence what is considered relevant to them is different than what is relevant to the event. To this end, we assume that the officer already knows the following information, and hence tweets containing only this information will not be relevant:

- The officer already knows that the wildfire has occurred
- The officer already knows the general region (county-level)

Examples of actionable information

- Reports of people in need of aid
- People evacuating
- Requests for information/guidance
- Available services
- People not evacuating
- Evacuation orders

These are broad information type matches identified when labelling the training data

- First hand reports of on-ground operation – First Party Observation
- Location of Evacuation Centre – Service Available
- Weather Forecasts – Weather
- FEMA authorizing funds – Continuing News
- Evacuation Notices with locations – Call To Action/Move People
- Fire Size/area affected – Factoid
- Fire size/area changes – Significant Event Change

- Animal Hospital – Service Available
- Donate food – Donation
- Resident Meeting – Official
- Evacuation Orders with detail – Move People
- Evacuation Order mentioned in news – Continuing News
- Not Evacuating – Emerging Threats
- Looting/Strong Winds – Emerging Threats
- Re-Evacuation orders – Significant Event Change
- New hashtags -