

January 13, 2023

Climate Survey Request

We are a team of five graduate students in Public Policy at UCLA who are partnering with the Ella Baker Center, an advocacy nonprofit in California, to conduct an assessment of which California prisons are the most vulnerable to climate emergencies and what policies are already in place to respond to wildfires, floods, and extreme temperatures. **We are asking you to participate in a survey about your experience within the California state prison you are currently in.**

Trigger warning: This survey contains questions regarding life-threatening events that may be triggering for some.

California is at the forefront of the impacts of climate change. Environmental phenomena such as rising sea levels, flooding, drought, and wildfires are having an increased effect on the state as climate change increases its prevalence and impact. People incarcerated in California prisons are uniquely vulnerable to the impacts of climate emergencies such as wildfires, floods, extreme heat, and extreme cold. We defined each below:

Definitions	Wildfires are unplanned fires that burn in natural areas like forests or grassland.
	Floods occur when too much water enters an area due to rain, sea-level rise, or other natural causes.
	Extreme heat is when temperatures are above 90 degrees Fahrenheit for two or more days.
	Extreme cold occurs during extended periods of near-freezing temperatures.

This survey is being sent to incarcerated individuals across California state prisons. We want to understand your concerns and recommendations regarding wildfires, floods, extreme heat, and extreme cold.

We have included an envelope and postage to return the completed survey to us. *Please do not staple the survey.*

Mail your completed survey back by February 15 to this address:

Ella Baker Center for Human Rights
Attn: Climate Survey
1419 34th Ave, #202
Oakland, CA 94601

Thank you for your time,

Maura O'Neill, Aishah Abdala López, Guadalupe, Eric Henderson & Abhilasha Bhola

Directions: All questions should be answered in reference to your experience at your current prison facility. There is room at the end to address experiences at other prisons.

1. Name of the prison facility you are currently in: _____
2. How many months have you been in this facility: _____

Please circle either yes or no to answer the following questions.

1. Do you know of a plan that describes procedures you should follow when these climate emergencies occur?
 - a. Wildfire, including exposure to smoke YES NO
 - b. Flood YES NO
 - c. Extreme heat YES NO
 - d. Extreme cold YES NO

2.

Check either yes or no to answer the following questions.	YES	NO
Have you ever been trained on safety protocol for wildfires?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have you ever been trained on safety protocol for floods?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have you ever been trained on safety protocol for extreme heat?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have you ever been trained on safety protocol for extreme cold?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you know your evacuation route in the event of an emergency?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

3.

Only check one of the boxes to answer the following questions.	No, never	Yes, once a year	Yes, twice a year	Yes, 3 times a year	Yes, 4 or more times a year
Have you ever participated in a fire drill?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have you ever participated in an evacuation drill?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Circle either yes or no to answer the following questions.

4. Have you experienced the following climate emergencies?
 - a. Wildfire, including exposure to wildfire smoke YES NO
 - b. Flood YES NO
 - c. Extreme heat YES NO
 - d. Extreme cold YES NO
5. Have you been evacuated from your cell or building due to any of the following climate emergencies?
 - a. Wildfire, including exposure to wildfire smoke YES NO
 - b. Flood YES NO
 - c. Extreme heat YES NO
 - d. Extreme cold YES NO

Reminder: questions are asking about your experience at your current prison facility.

6. Have you ever feared for your life due to any of the following climate conditions?
- | | | |
|---|-----|----|
| a. Wildfire, including exposure to wildfire smoke | YES | NO |
| b. Flood | YES | NO |
| c. Extreme heat | YES | NO |
| d. Extreme cold | YES | NO |
7. Have you experienced any of the following health issues due to wildfires (including exposure to smoke), floods, extreme heat, or extreme cold?

<i>Check either yes, no, or don't know to answer the following questions.</i>	YES	NO	DON'T KNOW
Heat cramps (painful, involuntary muscle spasms occurring due to heat)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Heat exhaustion (symptoms may include dizziness, nausea, headaches, fast and weak pulse, fast and shallow breathing)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Heat stroke (symptoms may include a body temperature above 104 F, hot and dry skin, rapid heart rate and breathing, nausea)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Irritated lungs, eyes, or throat from wildfire smoke	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wheezing, coughing, difficulty breathing from wildfire smoke	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Worsening of existing respiratory condition (ex: asthma)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prolonged numbness in hands, feet, etc. due to cold	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other health issues that required medical attention <i>If yes, please specify:</i> _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

8.

<i>Please check either yes, no, or don't know to answer the following questions.</i>	YES	NO	DON'T KNOW
Are you currently taking any prescription medication that can make you susceptible to extreme temperatures (ex: antidepressants, high-blood pressure or heart medication)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have you ever had limited access to showers?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have CDCR's efforts to conserve water limited your shower use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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9. To what extent do you agree with the following statements:

<i>Check <u>one</u> of the options for the following questions.</i>	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
In the event of a climate emergency, prison staff will keep me physically safe. (wildfire, flood, heat, cold).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
In the event of a climate emergency, prison staff will lock me in my cell and leave the facility for their own safety.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prison staff would intervene if my safety was threatened by a climate emergency.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

10. To what extent do you worry about your physical safety when the following occur:

<i>Check <u>one</u> of the options for the following questions.</i>	Not worried	Somewhat worried	Worried	Extremely worried
In the case of a wildfire near the prison.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
In the case of a flood within or near the prison.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
In the case of extreme heat at the prison.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
In the case of extreme cold at the prison.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

11. To what extent do you do you feel prepared for the following situations:

<i>Please check <u>one</u> of the options for the following questions.</i>	Not prepared	Somewhat prepared	Prepared	Extremely prepared
To evacuate during a wildfire.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
To evacuate during flooding.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
To get to a cool place during extreme heat.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
To get to a warm place during extreme cold.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

12. The following questions refer to conditions within the prison:

<i>Please check either yes, no, or don't know to answer the following questions.</i>	YES	NO	DON'T KNOW
Does the prison yard you use most have shade cover?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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<i>Please check either yes, no, or don't know to answer the following questions.</i>	YES	NO	DON'T KNOW
Have prison staff ever given you additional blankets for the cold?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
In cold weather, do you have access to heated facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has the prison ever lost electricity or had a generator failure in your time there?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have prison staff ever given you a N-95 respirator mask if there was wildfire smoke in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are you able to keep masks, like N-95 respirators, inside your cell?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are you able to store other emergency supplies in your cell (ex: water, N-95 masks, extra blankets)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

13. On days when it was extremely hot in the prison, how often would you say the following occurred?

<i>Check <u>one</u> of the options for the following questions.</i>	Never	Sometimes	Always, or almost always	Don't Know
You had access to a prison-provided fan.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
You used a fan that you bought (from commissary or elsewhere).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prison staff gave you water or electrolytes.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
You had access to portable cooling units.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
You had access to air-conditioned rooms.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Prison staff allowed you to get ice.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
You had increased access to showers.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
You had increased access to water.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
You used water from your cell sink or toilet to cool down.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
You received accommodations in cell or yard time.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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14. Below, you can include anything else like to share about how climate emergencies in prison have affected you. If you have had wildfire, flood, or extreme temperature experience at another prison you would like to mention, you can write about them here. Please include the name of the prison.

15. Do you have any recommendations for CDCR, Ella Baker Center, or the general public on how to address the impact that these climate emergencies have on you?

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