



SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA MONTANE FORESTS PROJECT

*A Climate-Informed
Conservation Strategy*



www.climatesciencealliance.org/southern-forests



CLIMATE
SCIENCE
ALLIANCE

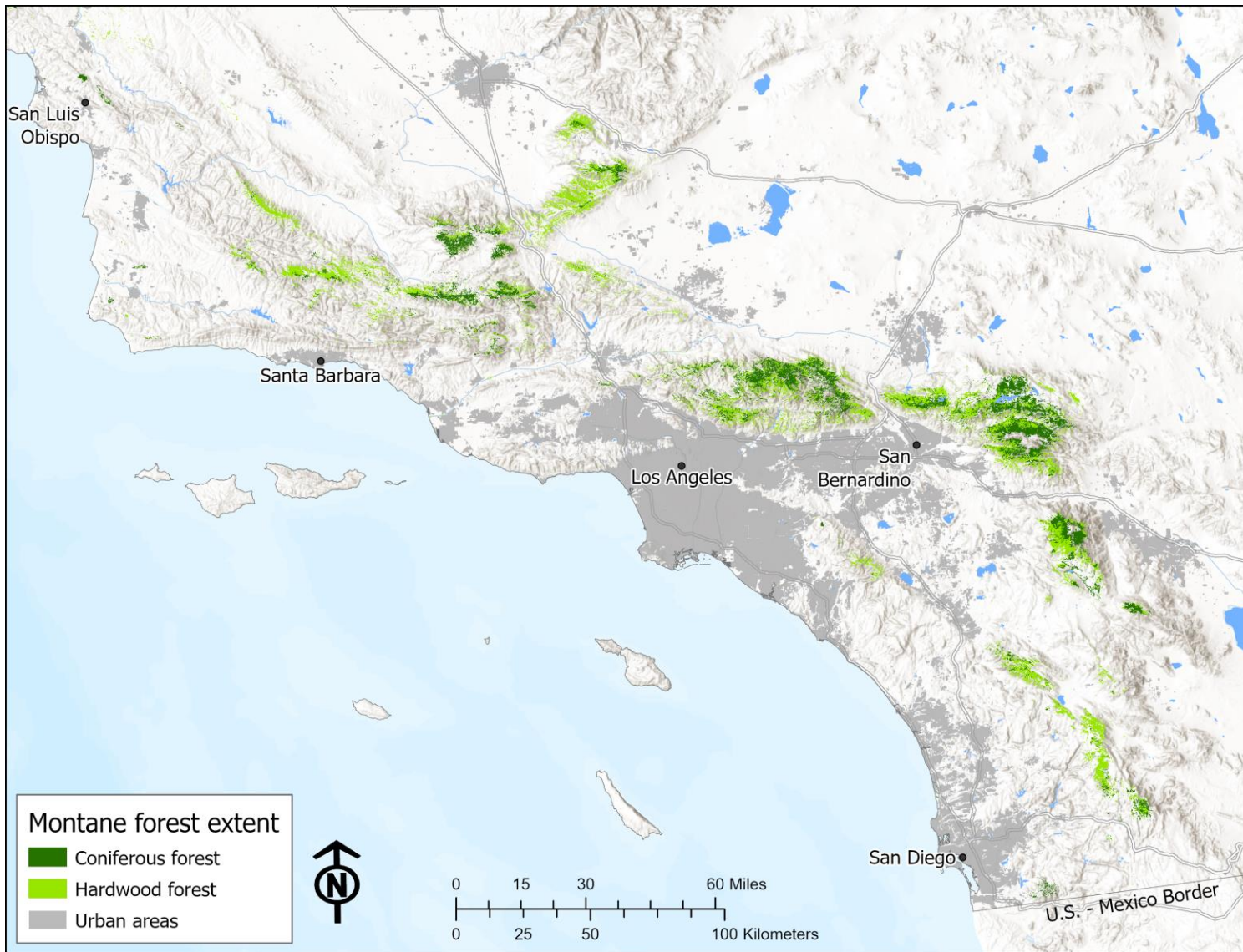
SDSU | San Diego State
University

**IE
M
M** Institute for Ecological
Monitoring and
Management



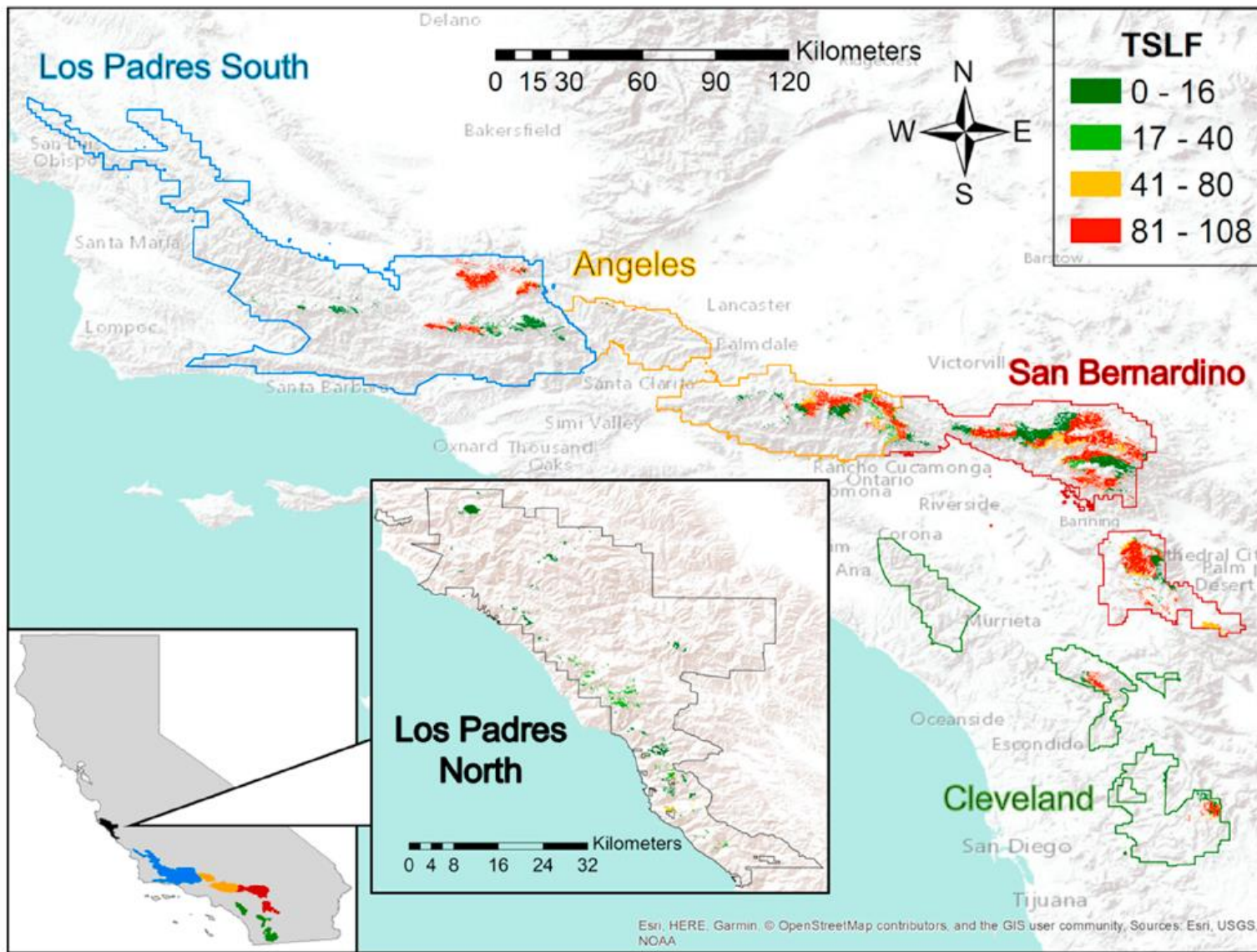
Southwest
Climate Adaptation
Science Center

USGS
science for a changing world



Map depicting extent of high elevation (>1200 m / 3600 ft) hardwood (light green) and coniferous forest (dark green) in southern California.





Map depicting Time Since Last Fire (TSLF) in forested landscapes in relation to National Forest boundaries in southern California. (Nigro and Molinari 2019)



DEVELOPING A CLIMATE-INFORMED CONSERVATION STRATEGY

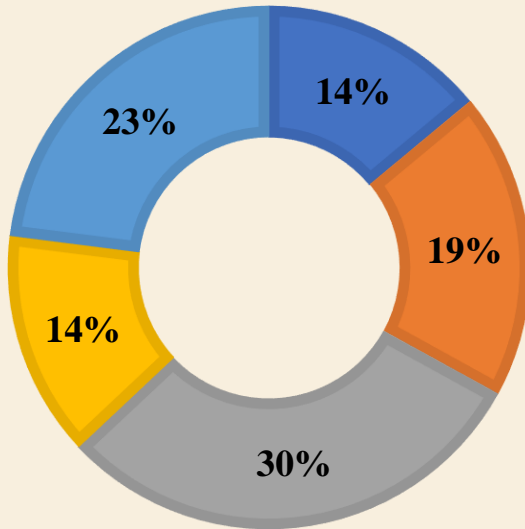


- Build a community of practice
- Science-based guidance on threats and desired conditions
- All-lands approach
- Opportunity to develop partnerships and explore joint projects to enhance forest health and resilience
- Co-produced with partners and stakeholders



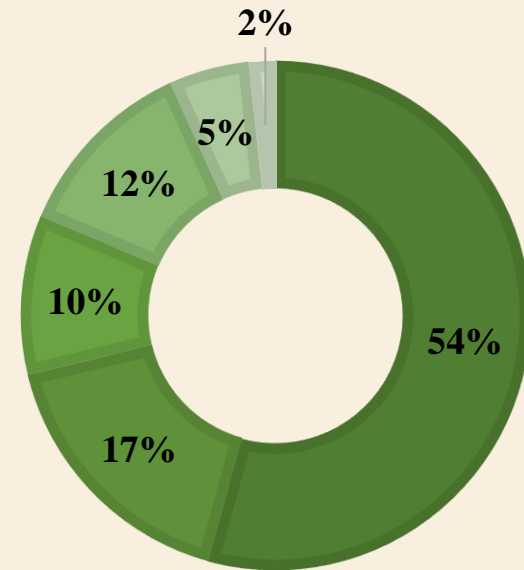
PRACTITIONER PERSPECTIVES

Geographic area



- Southern Coast Range
- Western Transverse Range
- Eastern Transverse Range
- Northern Peninsular Range
- Southern Peninsular Range

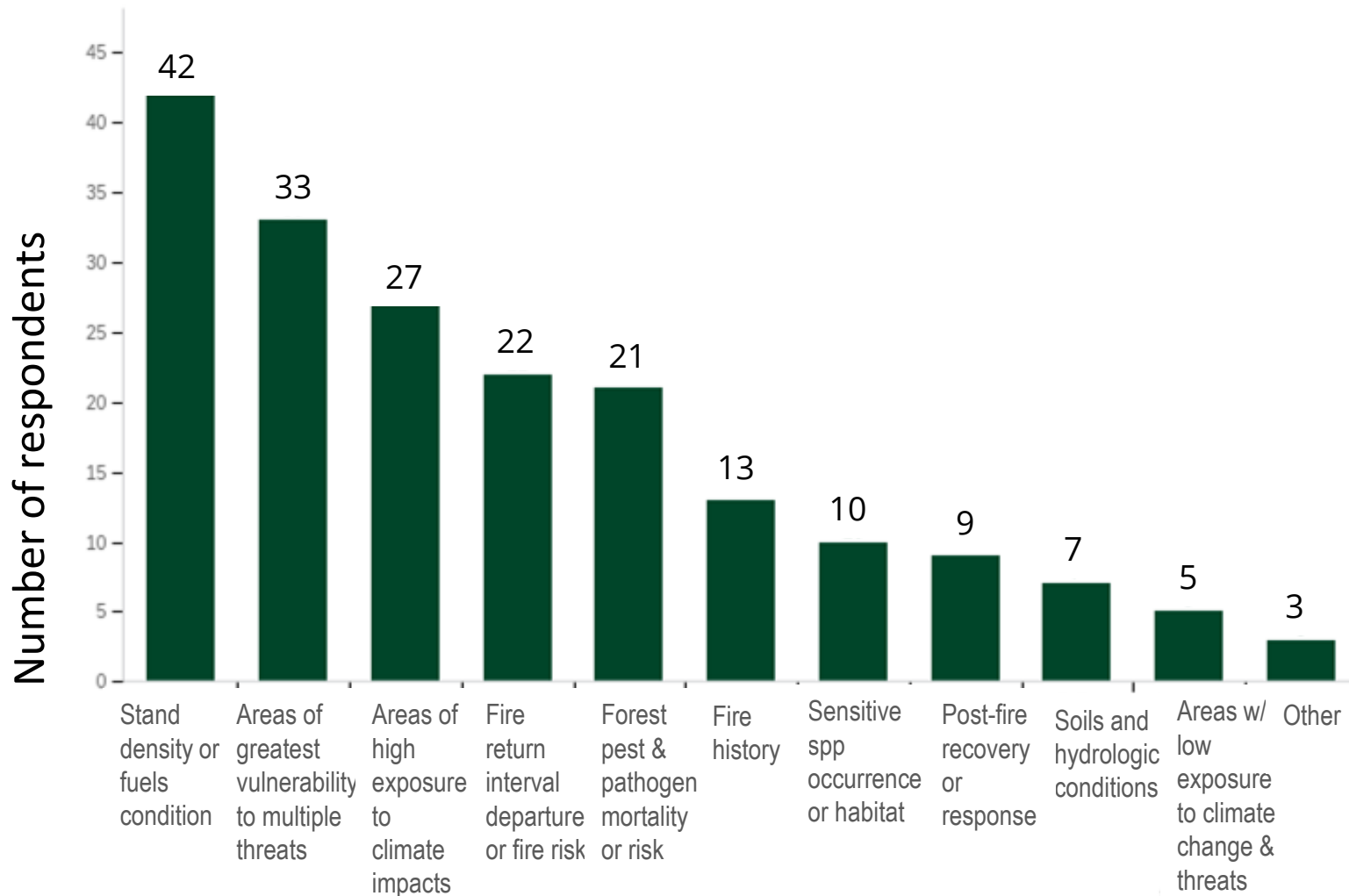
Organization type



- Federal government
- State government
- Local government
- Tribal government
- Non-profit organization
- Private company



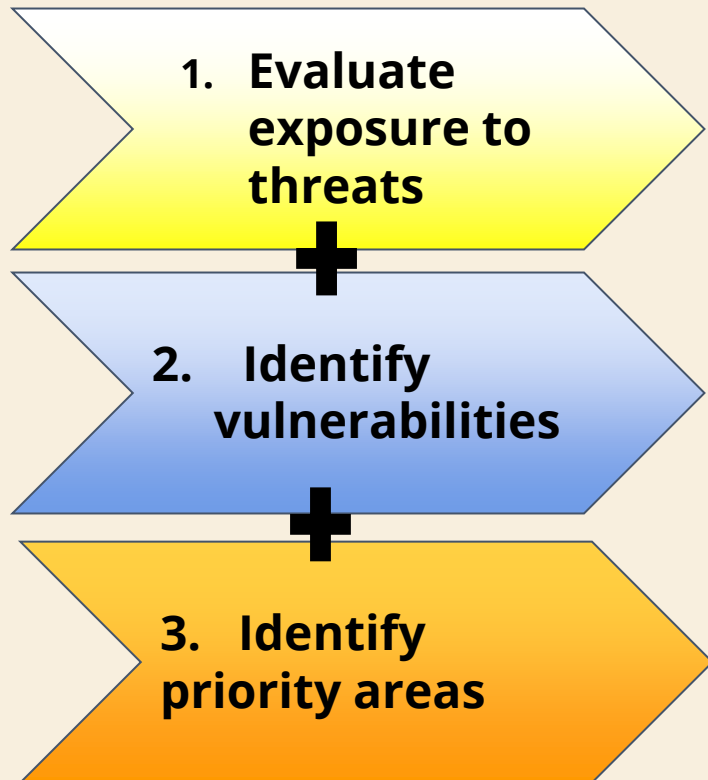
PROJECT PRIORITIZATION & DESIGN SUPPORT NEEDS



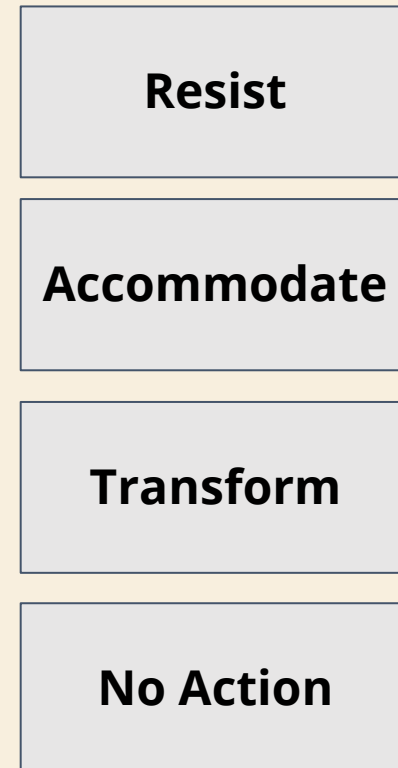
FRAMEWORK FOR STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT DECISIONS

Goal: Retain and build resilience in southern California's forests

Three key processes



Response Strategies



TOP BARRIERS AND CHALLENGES



Prescribed fire burning up to Laguna Meadow, CNF

Planning challenges

- Staff capacity
- Completing environmental review
- Competing priorities
- Funding availability

Implementation challenges

- Staff capacity
- Funding availability
- Regulatory requirements/restrictions
- Biomass options



OPPORTUNITIES FOR COORDINATION & COLLABORATION


Calls to action

USFS 10-year Wildfire Crisis Strategy

CA Wildfire and Forest Resilience Action Plan

CA Strategic Plan for Expanding the Use of Beneficial Fire

Shared Stewardship Strategy



**Identify recommendations
from adaptation science**

**Inform regional
prioritization planning**

**Focus on strategic
implementation**

Funding programs

Joint Chiefs' Landscape Restoration Partnership
Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program
CA Climate Investments Program



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