Wildfire danger in the EU & UK in a changing climate

Wildfires are most dangerous when they occur in the interface between human populations and wildland. The risk for these fires to happen is influenced by climate change, which may also hamper the ability of ecosystems to recover after the fires.

Decreasing risk with climate change*
Number of fewer people exposed annually to a significant level of fire danger compared to present

1.5 °C
2 °C
3 °C

Increasing risk with climate change*
Number of additional people exposed annually to a significant level of fire danger compared to present

1.5 °C
2 °C
3 °C

Currently 63 million European citizens are living near wildland and exposed to at least 10 days of high-to-extreme fire danger annually.

*Assuming the population and economy as of today

For more information, including assumptions of the modelling framework used, see: JRC PESETA IV project https://ec.europa.eu/jrc/en/peseta-iv