

Fire Risks in European Forests and its Management

Occurring

Humans

- Arson
- Agriculture
- Carelessness

Natural

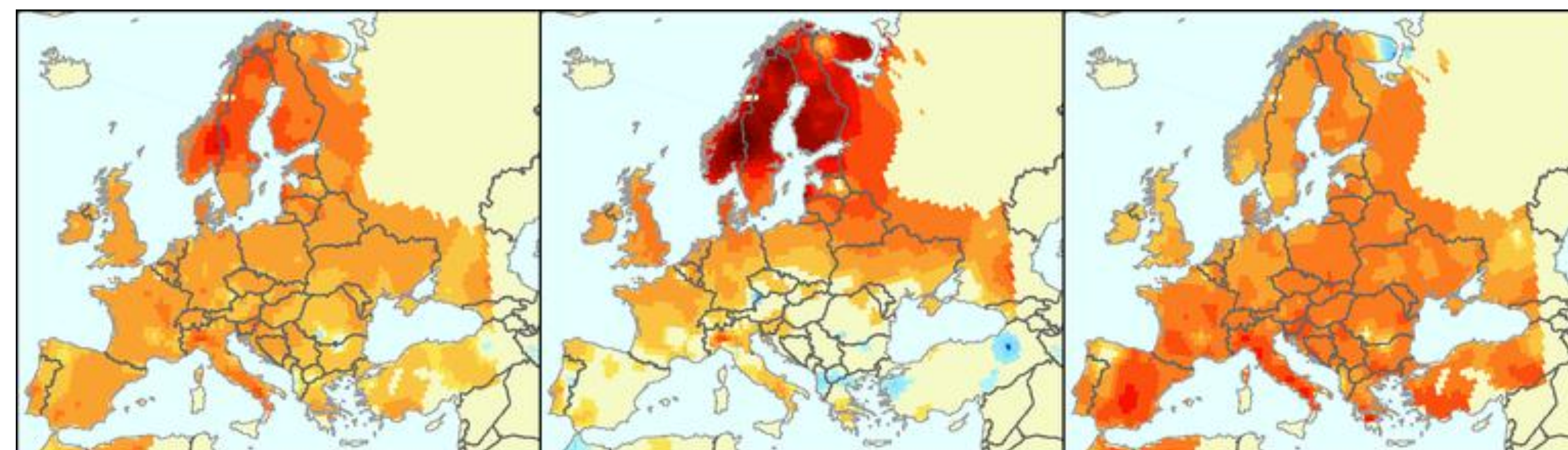
- Lightning
- Volcanoes
- Spontaneous combustion



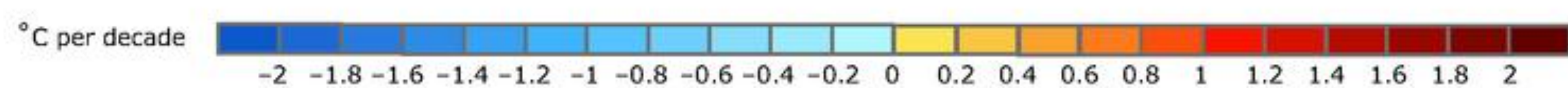
Climate change

Higher Temperature – Less Water

- Longer fire season
- Drier fuels
- Lower deposit



Observed temperature change over Europe during the period 1976–2006
Left: annual mean; middle: winter (DJF); right: summer (JJA)



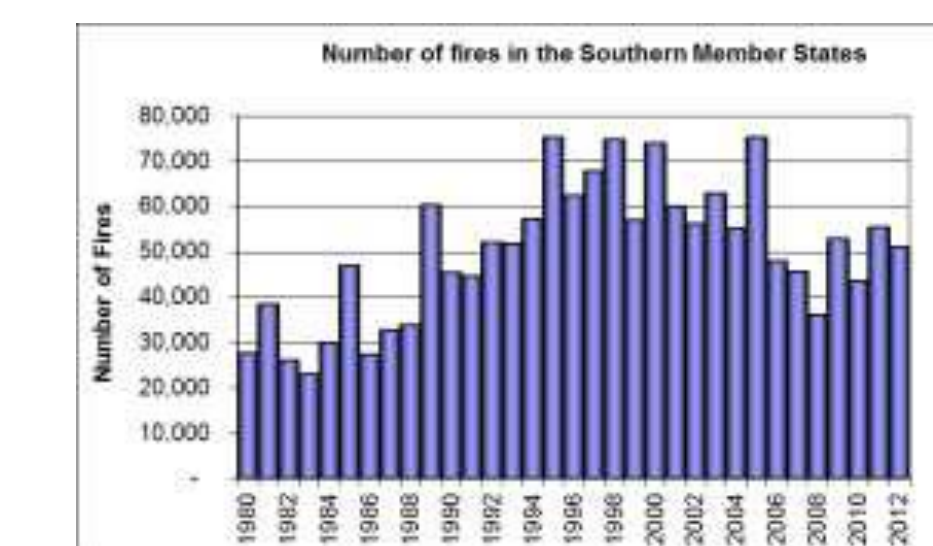
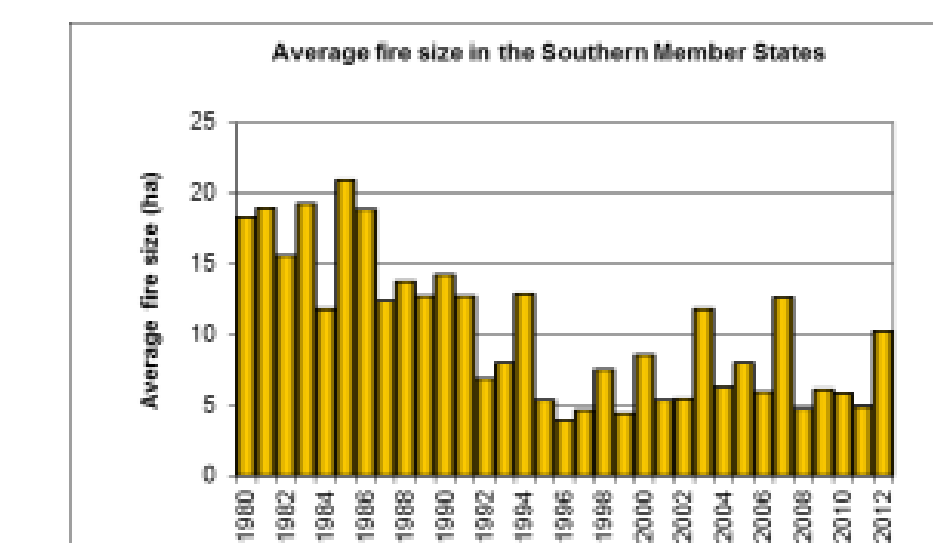
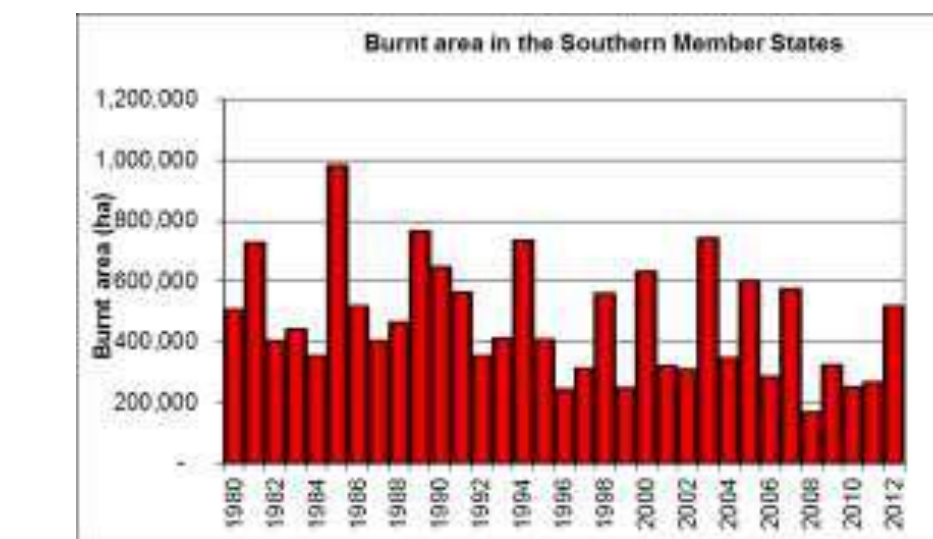
5 Southern countries

France - Spain - Portugal - Italy - Greece

Burned area depends on seasonal climate conditions

Number of fires going down

Fire size is stable since 2000



Prevention

- Raise awareness
- Improve the information
- Increase the budget
- Vegetation management

