



# Fuego realizes USD 90-110 m in savings and significant non-financial benefits by aiding wildfire suppression

### **Executive summary**

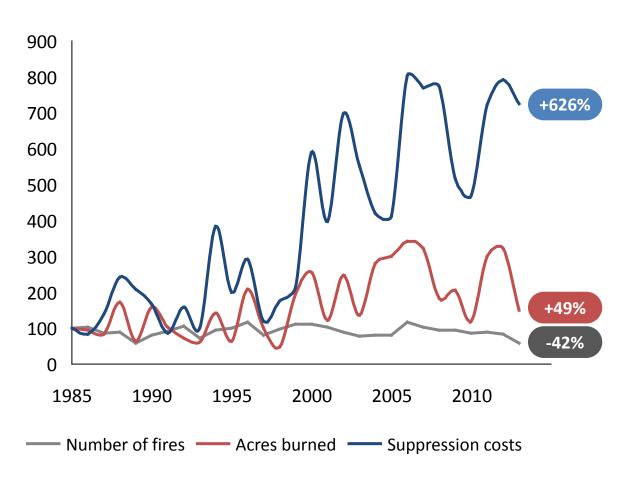
- The financial and environmental impact of wildfires in the US has increased dramatically over the last 30 years
- Impact concentrates in a small number of events Est. 30-40% of costs is related to very few fires of 100k+ acres
- Experience in recent large fires shows that early detection and coordination make all the difference
- Fuego drastically reduces impact through early detection, better intelligence and control capabilities
- Suppression costs can be reduced by ~7%, leading to an estimated annual savings potential of USD 90-110 m
- Full economic benefits are considerably larger, with 47-98% of costs related to factors other than suppression

"Fuego is the
USGS Earthquake
Hazards Program for
wildfires"



# The financial and environmental impact of wildfires in the US has increased dramatically over the last 30 years

The impact of wildfires in the US (rebased, 1985=100)



### **COMMENTS**

Even though the US has seen 42% fewer wildfires in 2013 as compared to 1985, acres burned have increased significantly, and costs have risen over 600%

### Reasons include:

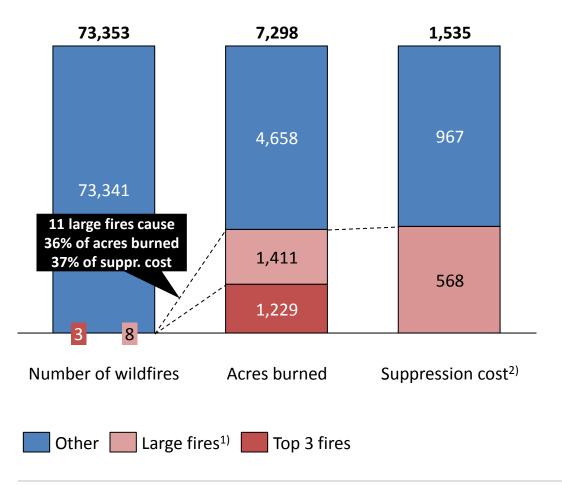
- 1. A build-up of fuels resulting in part from past fire suppression policies
- 2. A warming climate, including drought in the West
- 3. The development of homes adjacent to fire-prone public lands



# Impact concentrates in a small number of events – 30-40% of costs is related to very few fires of 100k+ acres

Annual impact of wildfires (average over 2004-2013)

**ESTIMATES** 



### **LARGE FIRES: EXAMPLES**

### Rim Fire (CA) August 2013

- 10 injuries (non-fatal)
- 257k acres destroyed
- USD 127 m in value destroyed
- Largest fire in history of CA

### East Amarillo (TX) March 2006

- 12 lives lost
- 900k acres destroyed
- Largest fire in 2006 season

### Taylor complex (AK) 2004

- 1,300k acres destroyed
- Wildfires in Alaska destroyed over 6,600k acres in 2004

### Biscuit fire (2002)

- USD 150 m in suppression costs
- 500k acres destroyed



## Experience in recent large fires shows that early detection and coordination make all the difference

Reasons for escalation, recent examples

### Rim Fire (2013)



Location

Sierra Nevada, California

Date

17 Aug 2013 – 24 Oct 2013

Damage

257k acres, 10 injuries, 112 structures

Costs

USD 127 m (75% funded by FEMA)

- Hunter's illegal fire went out of control
- Detected by fire plane on its way elsewhere
- Forces diverted to another fire on 3<sup>rd</sup> day
- Grew to 100k acres within 4 days
- Fuego could have enabled early action on the ground through better intel on safety

**TOO LATE** 

### San Diego County Fires (May 2014)



San Diego, California

5 May 2013 – 22 May 2013

30k acres, 6 injuries (1 fatal), 55+ structures

**USD 60 m** 

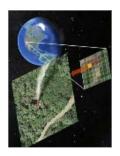
- The complex involved a total of 20 fires
- 8 major fires burned simultaneously
- Fires intensified within hours after starting fueled by Santa Ana winds
- Fuego could have provided intel to support prioritization across different jurisdictions

**TOO COMPLEX** 



# Fuego drastically reduces impact through early detection, better intelligence and control capabilities

Fuego capabilities and impact



### Fire detection

Quick identification and localization of fires



### Data analysis & Fire management

- More complete intelligence and imagery to decision makers in (de)centralized HQ
- Analysis of property / land at risk
- Simulation and monitoring



### **Better command & control capabilities**

- Faster deployment of airborne ground suppression force
- Better communication between remote units and central command centre

A reduction in the number of large fires resulting in:



... a reduction of USD 90-110 m in emergency funds deployed

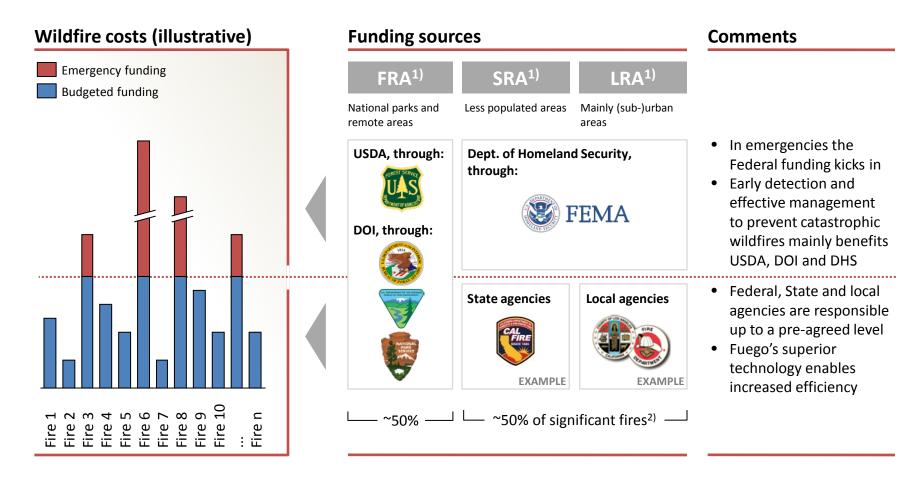
B ECONOMIC IMPACT

... a multiple of that in avoided property loss, lost economic activity, etc.



## Fuego primarily reduces use of Federal emergency funds – Superior technology benefits all stakeholders

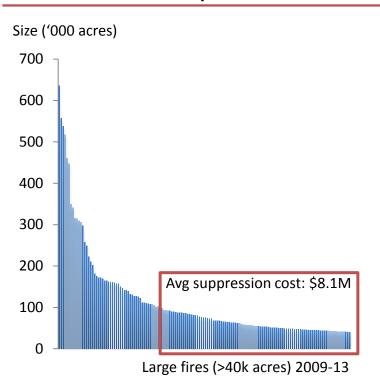
Funding structure US fire suppression forces



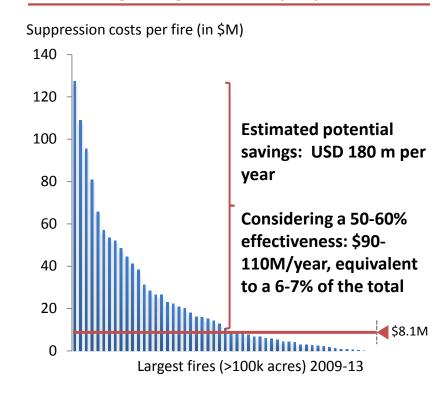


# Suppression costs can be reduced by ~7%, equivalent to a savings potential of USD 90-110 m per year

## Suppression costs of fires <100k acres are estimated at \$8.1M per fire



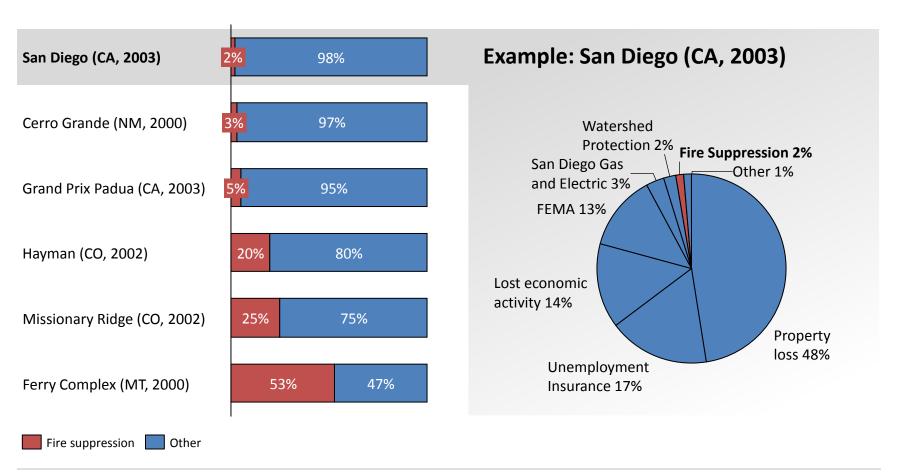
## The reduction in size of the >100k acre fires would bring savings of ~100M per year





## Full economic benefits are considerably larger, with 47-98% of costs related to factors other than suppression

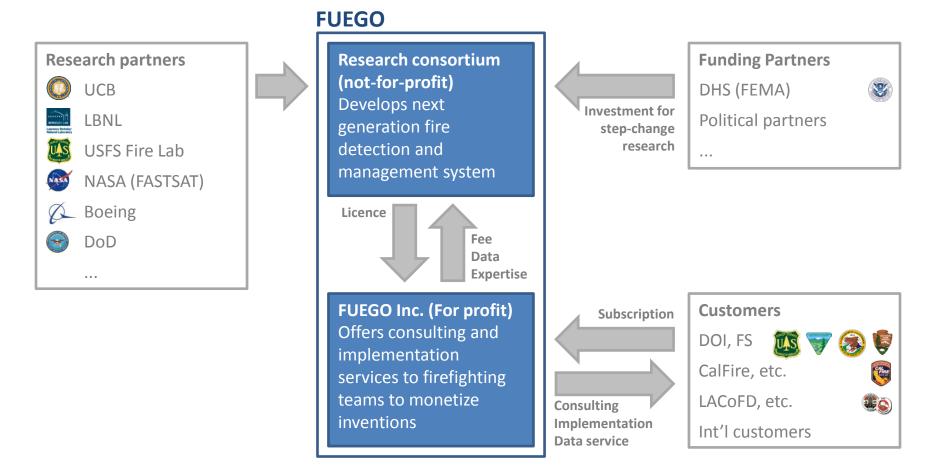
Full economic costs of selected fires, breakdown [%]





## Fuego is a provider of fire management technology – Research is housed in a separate not-for-profit entity

Fuego business model (illustrative)



## Several competitors offer detection technology – Fuego uniquely offers command and control integration

### Competition

### Competitor

### **Detection**

### Civilians reporting, Airline pilots reporting, Lookout towers

**Technology** 

**Comparison with Fuego** 

- Less effective in remote areas (number of lookout towers has been reduced by 25%)
- Processing of reports not immediate

- Command & control integration
- FBANs provide intelligence to forces on the ground
- Intelligence is provided one day in advance, instead of real-time



Network of sensors providing monitoring, evacuation notices and automated extinguishing

- Wide deployment of sensors required
  - Potentially not operational during fire
  - No feed-in to FD command and control



- Remote video detection system on four peaks in Marin county by PG&E, Marin County FD, FIRESafe Marin
- Currently limited coverage of area Video based only
  - No feed-in to FD command and control



- Wildfire detection as part of a multifunctional airplane based reconnaissance service
- Less advanced image processing technology
- · Limited feed-in to FD and on the ground command and control



- Military technology (e.g CHIRP) is repurposed to detected wildfires as a side product, currently inactive
- Side product of DoD activities CHIRP currently not active (potentially restarted in 2015)
- No feed-in to FD command and control



# Fuego's proprietary tech & other success factors make it the solution of choice to capture saving potential

Reasons for success and competitive advantage

Technology Advantage		Oth	Other Success Factors	
1	Patented technology for better fire detection from an imager in geosynchronous Earth orbit, low Earth orbit or high altitude unmanned areal vehicles (UAVs)	1	Integration with command and control structure	
2	Use of Phantom Eye an unmanned aircraft system (UAS) for persistent intelligence and surveillance, which provides monitoring, reconnaissance and communications	2	Back up from UC Berkeley's Vice Chancellor and Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and Space Sciences Laboratory (SSL)	
3	Patented unique algorithms for image processing, , wind speed at fires, fuel mapping, etc.	3	Great relationships and ties to government	
4	Integrated digital mapping system which can instantly display the location of vital resources or track the movements of key personnel	4	Knowledgeable and experienced team of experts	
5	Use of <b>most advanced database technology</b> including XML protocols and super-computer equivalent data processing $\rightarrow$ thus, being able to predict what fire will do	5	First Mover	
6	Military technology, which enables commanders to operate more effectively, lifting the "fog of war" (disposable now for Fire-fighters)	6	Partnership with Boeing	



# Fuego is founded by a world-leading image processing expert and a pioneer in earth observation technology

### Fuego team

### **Carl Pennypacker**

Astrophysicist at the University of California, Berkeley and the Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory. Research astrophysicist with a Ph.D. from Harvard. Principal research in supernovae and their automated discovery. Main scientist responsible for developing FUEGO's patented technology



### **Donn Walklet**

CEO of Terra-Vista, Inc., a provider of advanced earth observation technology and services for mission critical applications such as wildland fire management and analysis of climate change factors such as carbon sequestration. B.S. in Geology from Stanford and M.B.A. from Harvard Business School



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