

FAQS

RECOVER DATA DOWNLOAD AND USAGE:

Q: How frequently is the RECOVER fires layer updated?

A: The RECOVER Fires web service is updated daily throughout the peak of the wildfire year, May 15th through September 30th. Weekly updates are provided throughout the remainder of the year. The RECOVER Fires web service is an important web service derived from the NIFC WFIGS service and provides the link to download the **RECOVER Data Package**.

Q: How long should it take to download a RECOVER Data Package?

A: The length of time needed to download a **RECOVER Data Package** is based on several factors. The most important of which are the size of the data package and your current network download speed. A megafire like the 2022 Double Creek fire will require less than a minute to download using a fast network connection (i.e., 1 Gbps) but may require up to five minutes when using a slow network (i.e., 15 Mbps).

Q: Can I choose which layers to include in my download bundle?

A: The short answer is no. The reason for this is based on how RECOVER 1.0 (Beta) was used in the past. RECOVER had allowed users to select the layers to include in the Data Package yet after responding to over 100 large wildfires, there was no instance where even a single layer was de-selected or removed from the Data Package. For this reason, a complete Data Package is generated by default as part of RECOVER 2.0. Once downloaded and extracted, you can delete any layer you do not need.

Q: Can I download data for multiple fires simultaneously?

A: You can download numerous RECOVER Data Packages without needing to use the dashboard. Simply visit https://giscenter-sl.isu.edu/AOC/AOC_Research/recover2/

Q: Can I use a script/URL/command line to download an existing data bundle instead of going through the web interface?

A: You can download numerous RECOVER Data Packages without needing to use the dashboard. Simply visit https://giscenter-sl.isu.edu/AOC/AOC_Research/recover2/

Q: Is it possible for me to upload/use/provide a polygon instead of using an existing fire perimeter? (Is there a limit to the size/area?)

A: We have geoprocessing tools in development that allow you to submit a polygon shapefile. This area will be added to the RECOVER Fires layer and a Data Package will be produced for it just like any other wildfire detected by RECOVER's Large Fire Trigger. To submit an Area of Interest (AOI) polygon simply email it to webekeit@isu.edu. A more formalized process is being developed.

Q: Are there any limitations or acknowledgments if I distribute data I download from RECOVER?

A: All data used by RECOVER are part of the public domain and are shared freely. In several cases, the RECOVER team has added value to the source data by applying aliases to field names or by applying a specific symbology and making the data available as streaming web services to specifically support the RECOVER post-wildfire DSS. The RECOVER project was funded by NASA Applied Sciences (80NSSC22K1815). There are no limitations by the RECOVER team placed on these data.

RECOVER SCOPE AND EXPANSION:

Q: Why do you include only the western U.S.? (Or, can you expand the tool to include the eastern U.S. (or all of North America, or some other country, for that matter?)

A: The current scope of NASA RECOVER is to provide decision support services for wildfires across the western U.S. This area could be expanded if the user community would like to see this however. Please let us know by emailing us at webekeit@isu.edu

Q: I have another base layer that I think would be useful. Can you add it?

A: Please submit your ideas for additional base layers to webekeit@isu.edu. Frequently requested base layers will become a priority for inclusion in RECOVER.

RECOVER FUNDING AND HISTORY:

Q: Who funded RECOVER?

A: NASA Applied Sciences funded the original RECOVER and RECOVER 2.0 project.

Q: What is the history of RECOVER?

A: The NASA RECOVER post-wildfire decision support system (DSS) began in 2012 as the result of a NASA ROSES grant award to PI, Keith Weber. RECOVER was used to assist in post-fire planning on over 100 large wildfires between 2012 and 2019 when initial funding ended. RECOVER 2.0 was funded again by NASA in 2023 with plans to transition future management and maintenance of the DSS to the USDA Forest Service GTAC in 2024. To learn more about the history of RECOVER, please visit:

https://giscenter.isu.edu/research/Techpg/nasa_RECOVER/index.htm

Q: Who manages/maintains RECOVER?

A: Currently, RECOVER is managed by the project's Principal Investigator, Keith T. Weber. Keith is the GIS Director at Idaho State University and a Research Scientist with over 75 journal publications/Technical Reports primarily focusing on land cover change across arid and semiarid ecosystems of the western US.

RECOVER is maintained by a team located at Idaho State University's GIS TReC and the USDA Forest Service GTAC located in Salt Lake City, Utah.

RECOVER TRAINING AND SUPPORT:

Q: Is there a recorded training on RECOVER? Or when will the next live training be?

A: Yes. The recorded workshops are available by visiting the GIS TReC's YouTube Channel at <https://www.youtube.com/@GISTReC/videos>

Q: Who is the point of contact for questions I have about RECOVER?

A: There are two primary points of contact: Keith Weber (PI at ISU's GIS TReC webekeit@isu.edu) or Brad Quayle (Co-PI at the USDA Forest Service GTAC Brad.Quayle@usda.gov)

RECOVER Interface and Features:

Q: Which internet browser should I use for the RECOVER interface?

A: RECOVER was not developed around any single or specific browser and we are not aware of any browser-specific issues. You are free to use a browser of your choice or preference.

Q: What are the 'Mechanical Planting Distribution' and 'K-factor Distribution' analytics on the RECOVER dashboard?

A: These dashboard widgets show the distribution of gSSURGO soil polygons and their attributes describing the suitability for mechanical planting and K-factor¹ in and around the current view extent shown in the dashboard's map area.

Q: I click on a layer in the Layers window to draw it, but nothing displays in the map. Why is this?

A: The display of some of the layers in the RECOVER map are scale dependent. If you click on a layer to display it and the name of the layer in the list appears grayed out, this indicates the scale is too small to display it. Zoom in to a larger scale for the layer to display on the map.

Q: How do I make the 'Surface Management Agency Distribution', 'Mechanical Planting Distribution' and 'K-factor Distribution' analytics on the RECOVER dashboard update?

A: Click on the fire of interest and these dashboard analytic elements will automatically update. Holding down the shift button and selecting multiple fires will update the analytics to reflect the selected fires. Understand, these values are generalized for the area currently displayed on map. To obtain accurate results, use the data and special RECOVER toolbox found in the download package.

Q: Why are some fires highlighted in red on the RECOVER dashboard quick list?

A: Fires highlighted in red on the RECOVER dashboard quick list are mega-fires (having burned 100,000 acres or more).

Q: What do the 'Mean Acres Burned' and 'Total Acres Burned' values reflect on the RECOVER dashboard?

A: These dashboard elements represent the mean acres burned and total acres burned for all fires within the current view extent on the dashboard.

Q: How do I find the metadata for the layers in RECOVER?

A: There are numerous ways to find metadata for the base layers used in RECOVER. The easiest way is to use the menu in the upper-right corner of the dashboard or simply click here https://giscenter.isu.edu/pdf/PDF_NASA_RECOVER2/Metadata.pdf

Q: I would like to see the authoritative source, REST endpoint and other information about the map services that RECOVER uses. Where can I get that information?

A: This and other RECOVER data layer information is available on the [RECOVER Experience Builder site](#). Information on the web map services, metadata, projection information, etc. are provided here also. Click here to access the RECOVER Experience Builder <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/18fb54a427d449c08dc79ba4a650d636/page/Home/>

¹ For more information about K-factor please visit <http://www.iwr.msu.edu/rusle/kfactor.htm>

RECOVER DATA RETENTION:

Q: How far back does RECOVER generate/keep data for fires?

A: Once a Data Package has been created by the RECOVER Large Fire Trigger (LFT), these data packages are retained on our server. There is currently no plan to delete these data.