

# TOWARDS A CONSISTENT TERMINOLOGY FOR **WILDFIRE** PREPAREDNESS



Effective wildfire preparedness, mitigation, and response depend on accurate predictive information and a shared, harmonized terminology among practitioners, researchers, policymakers, and end-users.

There are three interrelated models that address these needs:



## **Susceptibility Models**

These models answer the question, “Can it burn?” They attempt to quantify fire susceptibility based solely on topography, fuel load, and fuel continuity indicators.



## **Hazard Models**

A wildfire hazard model builds upon a susceptibility model and furthers it by including ignition sources. These models inform the end-user about the possibility that a wildfire may actually occur in an area.



## **Risk Models**

Wildfire risk models build upon a hazard model. The risk model responds to the end-user question of “If a fire occurs, what area poses the highest risk to life and property?” By definition, risk models focus on a particular feature or area considered to be at risk.

