

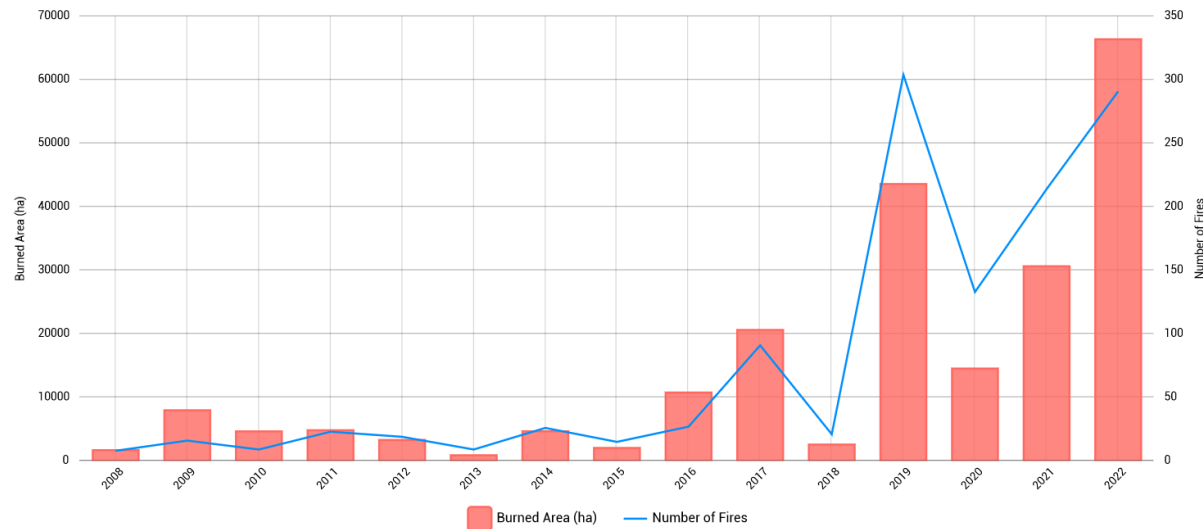


Forest Fire In Nouvelle Aquitaine

Summer 2022

Statement

During Summer 2022 a severe drought affected the whole country
6 masives forest fires were recorded in France that we were at the
moment unable to contain.



66 393 it the number of
acres that burnt during
this summer in France
To compare last year
only **30652** acres burnt

How we ended up like that in Nouvelle-Aquitaine

- 300 millimeters of rain have fallen on the Gironde since the beginning of January 2022. It should be 50, at this time of year. This situation is described as normal by Météo-France until May. Then it goes bad. July 2022 was the driest month on record since 1960 with just one day of rain bringing 5 millimeters of water. That is a deficit of 90%. It's a little less terrible in August, with a 60% deficit.
- We also had a lot of day above 40° and a lot of day higher than 30° that drop the ambient humidity close to 0%



Fires in Nouvelle-Aquitaine

- *400 interventions everyday during Summer*
- *20 fire starts everyday*
- *63 000 acres of forest burnt in Nouvelle Aquitaine*
- *5000 firefighters mobilized (from France, overseas departments and military firefighters) to contain fires in Nouvelle Aquitaine*
- *397 firefighter from Europe (Switzerland, Roumania Germany, Italy, Pologne Greece Austria Sweden)*
- *300 volunteers that have been watched the forest to prevent restarts*
- *11 canadairs and helicopters, 4 airplanes from the EU task force*
- *30 000 persons evacuated*





AFP Picture

Global mobilization

- More than 50 000 meals prepared by volunteers
- Farmers, entrepreneurs, civilian protection associations... That help to prevent the fires to restart and help

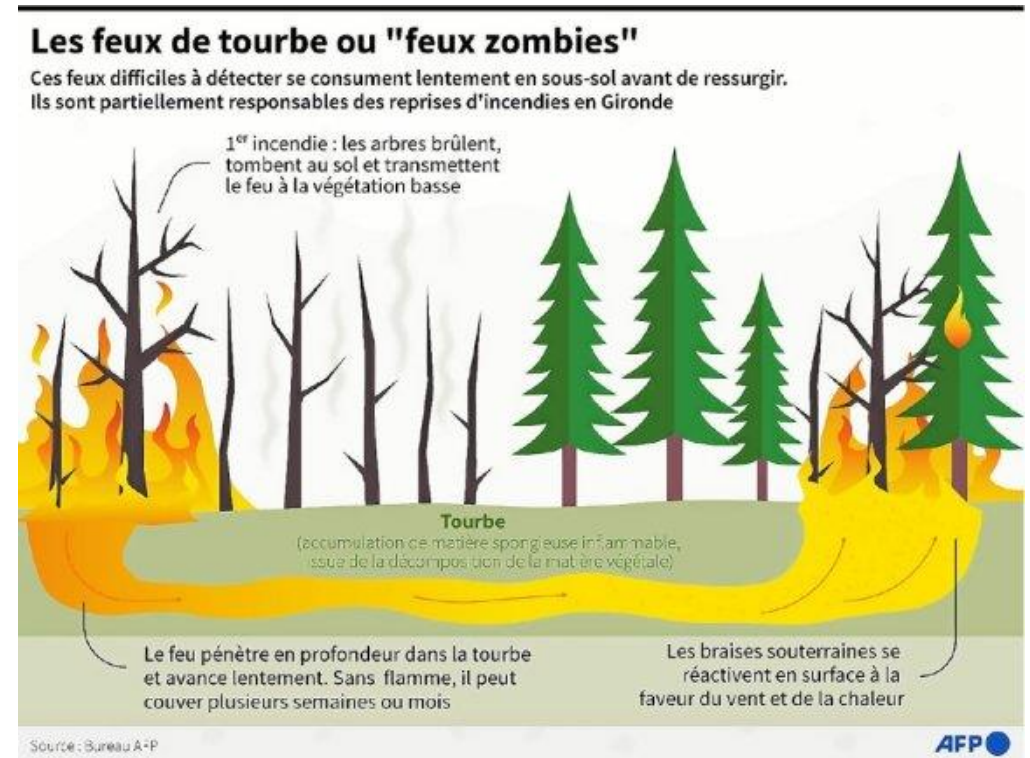


Facebook picture farmers groups



What was so difficult to contain the fire ?

- feu de tourbe « zombie fire » occur when a fire from a previous year smolders in **carbon-rich peat (organic fuel)** underground.
- That's why fire was out of control, because it continued underground and could restart 2 or 3 kilometers away.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BfSGP-CNXxDO>



Perspectives and futur

- Forest fires aren't Region proficiency but the region council voted for take an initiative for a fire prevention plan
- the creation of a school specializing in forest fires
- require the pre-positioning of water bombers in Mérignac in season
- initiate dialogue with the government to host the second civil security airbase
- Increase the number of fire fighter vehicles
- Tests to transform A400M (military plane) into water bomber in case of emergency