

GA Perspective on CA Wildfires

- Historic wildfires burning in the Los Angeles area have united all firefighters in thought and prayer.
- Wildfires in Georgia burn about 1,200 acres per year and burn an average of nearly 5,000 acres statewide.
- The Georgia Forestry Commission promotes prescribed fire for its many forest management benefits:
 - o a reduction in hazardous fuels
 - o improvement to wildlife habitat
 - o site preparation for seeding and planting
 - o management of competing vegetation
 - o control of insects and disease
 - o improved forage for grazing
 - o enhanced appearance
 - o improved access

- **The interview in this file was conducted on January 10, 2025, as California firefighters were battling Los Angeles area wildfires.**
- **This interview is with: Thomas Barrett, Georgia Forestry Commission Chief of Protection.**

SUBJECTS COVERED IN THE CUTS WITH THOMAS BARRETT:

- [0:00:08-0:01:02] Reaction to California wildfires
- [0:01:02-0:01:41] Conditions faced by California firefighters
- [0:01:41-0:02:43] Fire behavior in Georgia
- [0:02:43-0:03:46] Comparing fire behavior in Georgia to California
- [0:03:46-0:04:41] Georgia wildfire stats and response
- [0:04:41-0:05:20] How does Georgia manage our forests to mitigate wildfires?
- [0:05:20-0:06:53] Prescribed burning benefits
- [0:06:53-0:07:34] Managing smoke from prescribed fires
- [0:07:34-0:08:35] When is prescribed burning season?
- [0:08:35-0:09:30] Protecting homes & property from wildfires
- [0:09:30-0:10:32] Use of aircrafts to fight fires
- [0:10:32-0:11:11] Importance of forestry in Georgia
- [0:11:11-0:13:04] Challenges of upcoming fire season following Hurricane Helene