

**DEVASTATING WILDFIRES IN VARIOUS CORNERS OF THE GLOBE:
THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECT**

In many areas of the world, the past years have brought the risk of wildfires. Scientists claim that the main reason is the climate crisis. They say that the rise in fire danger is predominantly due to hotter temperatures, less rainfall, lower humidity and stronger winds as a result of global heating. Fires are releasing record levels of carbon dioxide, partly because they are burning ancient peatlands that have been a carbon sink. The most fire-ravaged areas include Australia, the US – Alaska and California, Russia – Siberia, and South America – the Amazon Rainforest.

Starting from 2019, Australia suffered from two crucial bushfire seasons: 2019-20 Australian bushfire season, colloquially known as Black Summer, and 2020-21 season. The main fire hotspots include New South Wales and Victoria. Since then, over 19 million hectares of land have been burnt, over 9440 buildings have been destroyed and about 480 people have died.

It goes without saying that not only the government makes its best to prevent the country from bushfires, but some organizations as well. Lots of animals, birds and insect's species are in danger at the moment, that's why WWF is working together with partners in-the-field to restore what has been lost in the fires and protect the remaining wildlife.

Another great ecological disaster has affected the US. In 2020, the Western United States experienced a series of major wildfires. Yet, the most fire-affected areas include California, Oregon, and Washington. According to the latest data, about 4,100,000 hectares of area have been burnt, over 13, 887 buildings have been destroyed and at least 46 people have died.

Scientists claim that the causes of the numerous wildfires are not only internal. The lead external cause of numerous wildfires is people. There are two ways of how people influence this horrible natural phenomenon: the warming that has

been caused by greenhouse gas emissions and the accompanying increased drying, people's moving into areas near forests, known as the urban-wildland interface, that are inclined to burn, and the wildlife smoke.

It must be noted that not only Australia and the US are suffering from the deadliest wildfires ever. Other vulnerable regions include Russia, China, Brazil (the Amazon forest), Argentina, South Africa and others.

To sum it up, all countries should be on standby to be ready to face the climate change problem. When it comes to our environment, it is an everybody's matter of concern. US and Australia wildlife seasons have proved that it's getting worse and worse and it's high time the world teamed up to work out a new program together.