Evacuation Route Locations

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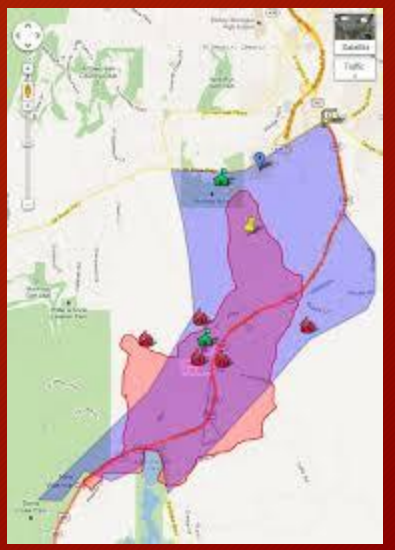
Introduction

Discussion Regarding Evacuation Route Locations and Orientations

- South Washoe Valley
- Galena
- Arrowcreek
- Callahan Ranch
- Verdi

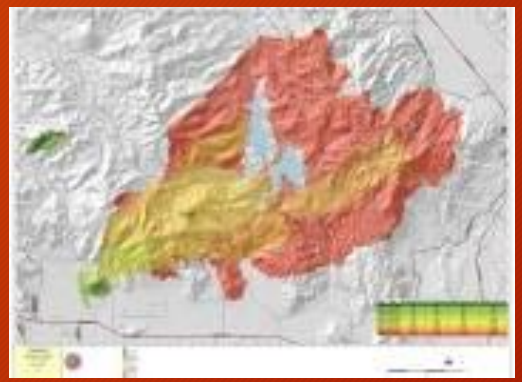


Not all evacuation routes are created equal and some should rarely if ever be used.

High Wind = Catastrophic Fire

Wind

- Biggest driver of wildland fire.
- Unusual fire behavior in Western Nevada due to Washoe Zephyr and cold front passage.
- Responsible for nearly every catastrophic fire over the last 20+ years (100 + homes lost in five fires)

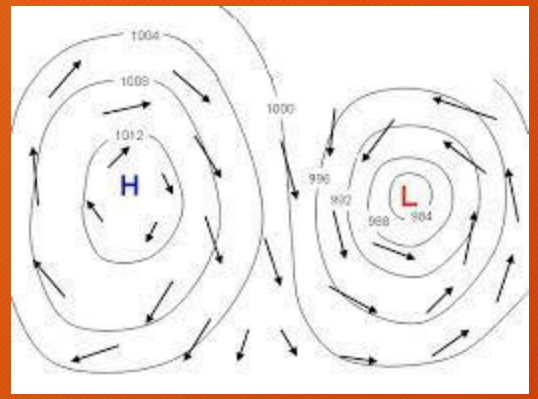


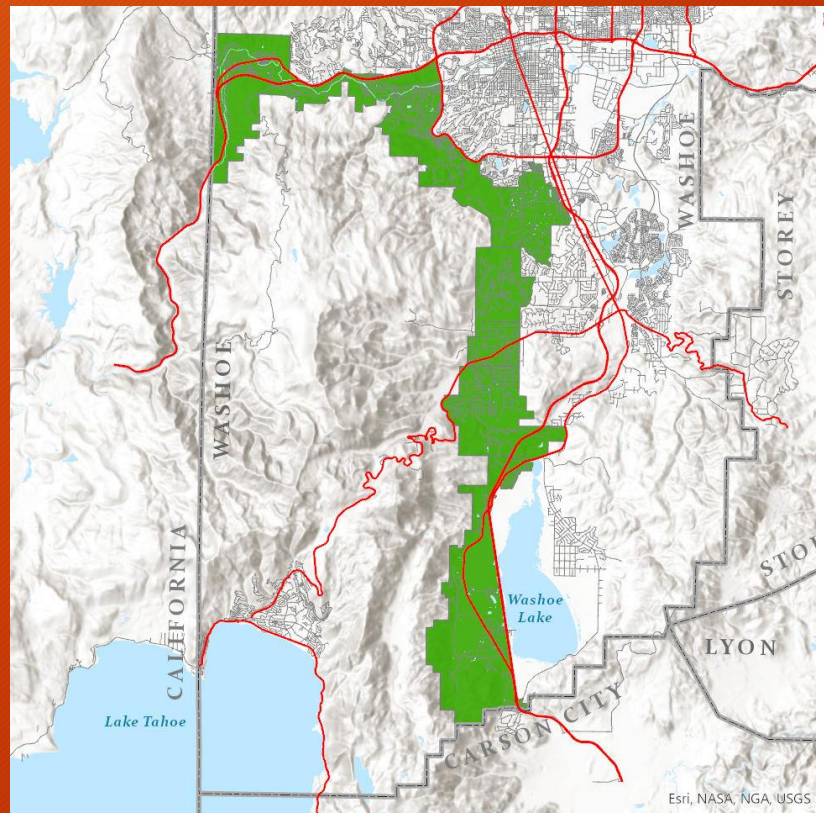
Wind Patterns/Fire Behavior Simulations

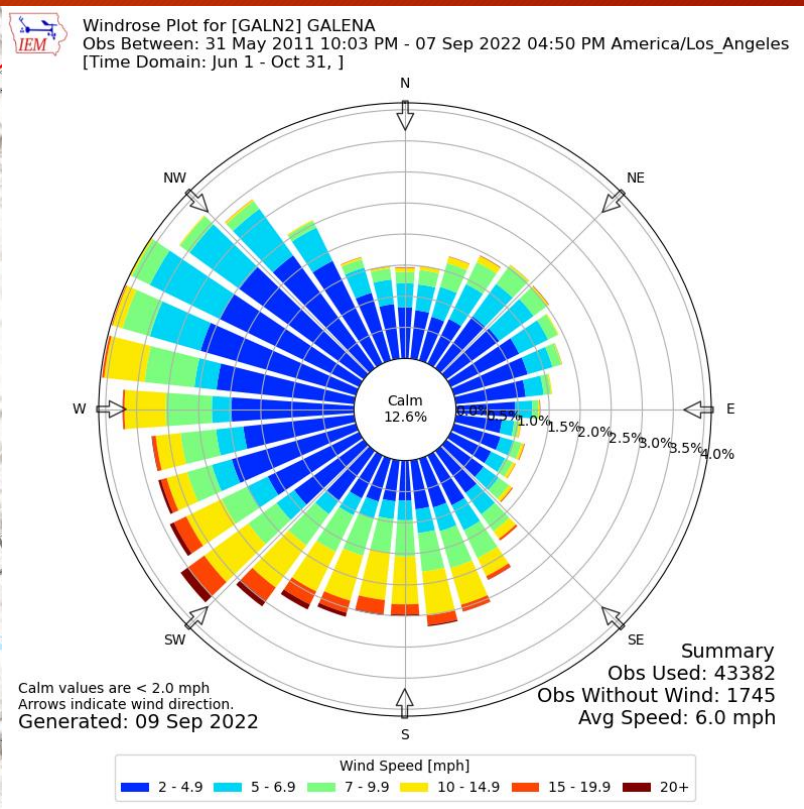
Most Catastrophic Fires Approach from West/Southwest

Simulation Assumptions:

- Continuous fuel bed
- Relative humidity low and temperature high in North and East wind simulations
- Thunderstorms are an exception







Wind Patterns - Continued

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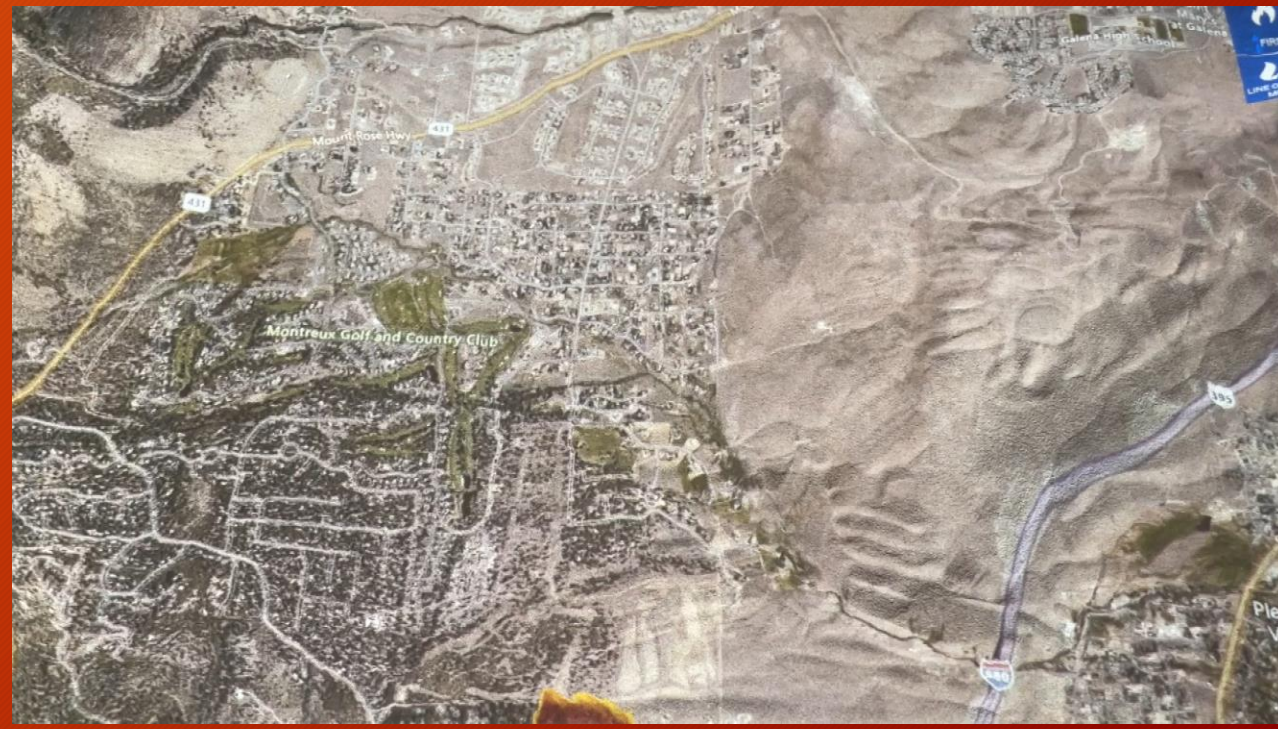
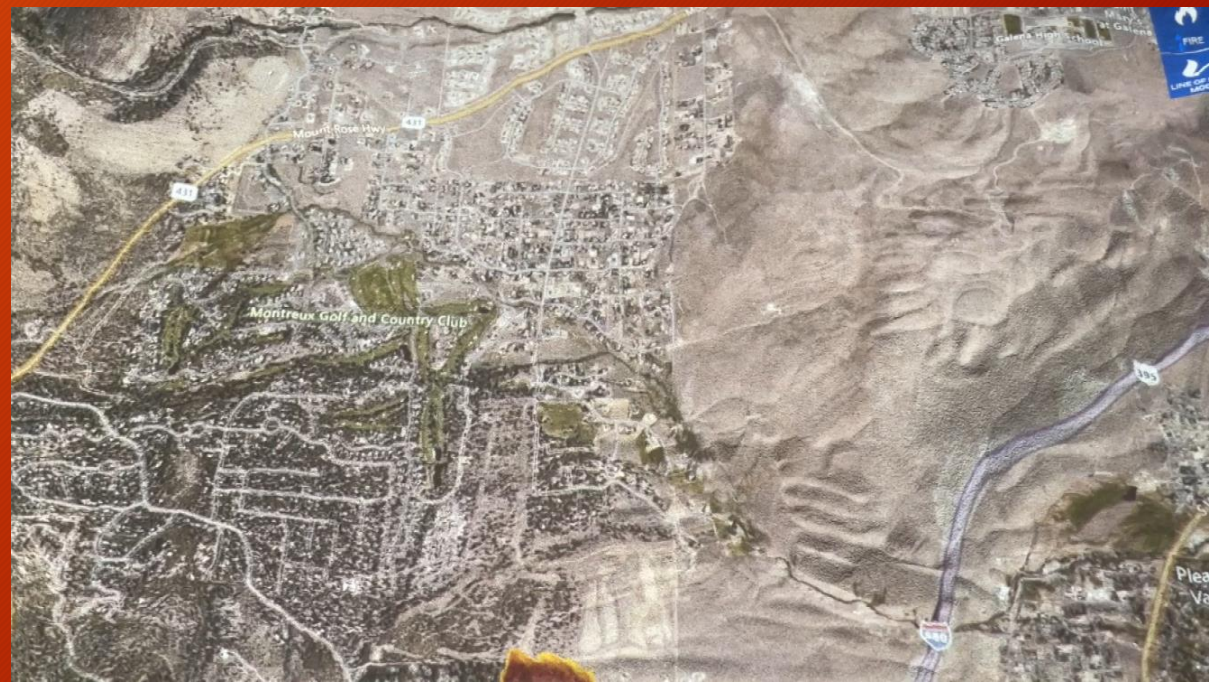


Wind Patterns - Continued

Most Catastrophic Fires Approach from West/Southwest



Conclusion

- Communities in Washoe County with borders against wildland fuels to the south and west are at heightened exposure to catastrophic fire.
- These communities should be aware of and avoid evacuation through those fuels in nearly all wildland fire scenarios.
- In wind driven fires approaching from the north or east, sheltering in place MAY be the best option (scenario dependent).
- Efforts and energy will be most effective when focused on establishing defensible space.
- Efforts and energy are needed to educate communities of the NEED to evacuate promptly when suggested to do so.