



Wildfire Leadership Summit Speaker Master List (2022–2025)

Program Edition

The *Wildfire Leadership Summit* brings together leaders from government, nonprofit, tribal, and private sectors who are shaping the future of wildfire recovery and resilience. From local community champions to national policymakers, these speakers represent the collective expertise, lived experience, and innovation driving solutions in the era of megafires. This master list honors all who have shared their knowledge and leadership through the Summit, united by the shared goal of helping communities recover, rebuild, and reimagine.

Last Updated: October 2025

Please note some of these people have transitioned into other orgs

Host Organization

After the Fire USA — Leadership & Board Speakers

- **Jennifer Gray Thompson** — Founder & CEO
- **Dr. Lisa Micheli** — Executive Board Member
- **Reva Feldman** — Strategic Advisor
- **Judy Coffey** — Board President; Senior Vice President & Area Manager, Kaiser Permanente Marin–Sonoma (Ret.); Total Loss Survivor (2017)
- **Marko Bey** — Executive Board Member; Founder & Executive Director, Lomakatsi Restoration Project
- **Larry Florin** — Executive Board Member; CEO & President, Burbank Housing

Government

Boulder County, Colorado – Katie Arrington – Assistant Recovery Manager

Butte County – Katie Simmons – Deputy Chief Administrative Officer

CA Natural Resources Agency – Jessica Morse – Deputy Secretary for Forest and Wildland Resilience

Cal OES – Brian Marshall – Fire and Rescue Chief

CAL FIRE – Joe Tyler – Director

California Highway Patrol, Northern Division – Aristotle Wolfe – Assistant Chief

California State Senate – Bill Dodd – California State Senator, Senate District 3

California State Senate – Mike McGuire – Senate Majority Leader

City of Santa Rosa – Gabe Osburn – Resilient City Planning Office

City of Santa Rosa – Jeff Okrepkie – Councilmember / Founder of Coffey Strong

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EIN/TAX ID: 82-3266893



City of Santa Rosa – Paul Lowenthal – Division Chief Fire Marshal
City of Santa Rosa – Tom Schwedhelm – Former Mayor and Council Member
City of Santa Rosa – Scott Westrope – Fire Chief
City of Sonoma – David Guhin – City Manager
Congressional Representative, District 5, California – Mike Thompson – Congressional Representative
County of Lake – Jessica Pyska – District 5 Supervisor
County of Maui – John Smith – Recovery Administrator
County of Maui – Richard Bissen – Mayor
County of Maui – Josiah Nishita – Managing Director
County of Maui – Shay Chan Hodges – Director of Recovery
County of Plumas – Kevin Goss – Supervisor, District 2
County of Sonoma – Chris Godley – Director of Emergency Management
County of Sonoma – Genevieve Taylor – Recovery & Resilience Director
County of Sonoma – Rebecca Hermosillo – Supervisor-Elect
County of Sonoma – Tennis Wick – PRMD Director
County of Sonoma – James Gore – Supervisor / President of NACO
FEMA – Catherine Cole – Director, National Disaster Recovery Framework
FEMA – Lori Moore-Merrell – U.S. Fire Administrator
FEMA – Marcus Coleman – Director, Office of Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships
FEMA Interagency Recovery Coordination Division – Heather Milton – Community Assistance Manager
Former FEMA Director – Pete Gaynor – President, Bright Harbor
Hawai'i State Legislature – Elle Cochran – State Representative
International Code Council – Karl Fippinger – Vice President, Fire and Disaster Mitigation
Permit Sonoma – Caerleon Safford – Department Analyst, Fire Prevention Division
Sonoma County Regional Parks – Melanie Parker – Deputy Director
Sonoma Valley Fire Response Agency – Steve Akre – Fire Chief
Sonoma Water – Brad Sherwood – Assistant General Manager; Block Captain, 2017 Tubbs Fire
Sonoma Water – Pam Jeane – Deputy Chief Engineer
State of Oregon – Michael Morter – Former Wildfire Recovery Ombudsman
State of Hawai'i – Troy Hashimoto – State Senator (D-10)
State of Hawai'i – Angus L. K McKelvey – Senator District 6: West Maui, Mā'alaea, Waikapū, South Maui
Town of Paradise – Steve Crowder – Councilmember
Town of Superior – Jenn Kaaoush – Councilmember
Texas General Land Office – Heather Lagrone – Sr. Deputy Director, Disaster Recovery Programs
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development – Will Gonzalez – Deputy Assistant Secretary for Grant Programs
U.S. Fire Administration – Tonya Hoover – Deputy Fire Administrator
U.S. Forest Service – Jerry Perez – Regional Forester, Pacific Southwest Region
USDA Rural Development – Maria Gallegos Herrera – State Director
VA National Center for PTSD – Dr. Adrienne Heinz, Ph.D. – Clinical Research Psychologist

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Nonprofit / NGO

A Fire Story – Brian Fies – Author
Achieve Charter Schools of Paradise – Casey Taylor – Executive Director
Altadena Rising – Ash Level – Strategic Partnerships, Engagement & Storytelling
American Red Cross – Jennifer Pipa – Vice President of Disaster Programs
Audubon Canyon Ranch – Sasha Berleman, Ph.D. – Director, Fire Forward
Beverly Hills Fire Dept – Gregory Barton – Fire Chief
Bipartisan Policy Center – Andy Winkler – Director, Housing and Infrastructure Projects
Blue Mind and Dear Wild Child – Wallace “J” Nichols, Ph.D. – CZU Fire Survivor and Author
Burbank Housing – Larry Florin – CEO & President; After the Fire USA Executive Board
Catholic Charities Hawai‘i – Rob Van Tassell – President & CEO
Camp Fire Collaborative – Kate Scowsmith – Disaster Case Management Systems Facilitator
Climate Resolve – Jonathan Parfrey – CEO
Coalicion Fortaleza – Erica Ledesma – Executive Director
Coffey Strong – Pamela Van Halsema
Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement (CNHA) – Kukui Keahi – Community Care Navigator Lead
Community Foundation of Boulder – Tatiana Hernandez – CEO
Community Housing Improvement Program – Seana O’Shaughnessy – President & CEO
Community Wildfire Planning Center – Molly Mowery, AICP – Executive Director
Cultural Fire – Margo Robbins – Executive Director
Department of Angels – Christine Kwon – Lead
DiDi Hirsch – Clara Bergen, Ph.D. – Program Development Manager
El Dorado County Fire Safe Council – Charlene Ferrell
Enterprise Community Partners – Laurie Schoeman – National Director, Disaster & Resilience Recovery
Faith Action for Community Equity – Dustin Dela Cruz
First Responders Resiliency – Sue Farren – Founder & Executive Director
Footprint Project – Will Heegaard – Operations Director
Good360 – Jim Alvey – Vice President, Disaster Recovery & Philanthropy
GEM – Danielle Dreis – Executive Director - Hawaii
HALTER Project – Julie Atwood – Founder
Hanna Center – Erin Hawkins – Director
Hawai‘i Land Trust – Shae Kamakaala – Director of ‘Āina Protection
Hawaiian Community Assets – Jeff Gilbreath – Executive Director
Hui No Ke Ola Pono – John Anderson – Executive Director
IBHS – Alister Watt – Chief Product Officer
IBHS – Laura Blaul – Sr. Wildfire Fellow
IBHS – Mark Vaughn – Wildfire Operations Manager
IBHS – Amanda West – Director of Product Services
Impact Development Fund – Emily Nilsen – Chief Program Officer

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Local Innovation Works – Ellie Holty – Disaster Response Community Liaison
Makai Foundation – Rebekah Uccellini-Kuby – Project Director
Malibu Boys & Girls Club – Kasey Earnest – Executive Director
Maui Mayor's Advisory Committee – Laurie Lei DeGama – Community Leader
Maui Mayor's Advisory Committee – Earle Kukahiko – Community Leader
Maui Mayor Advisory Committee – Kaliko Storer
Maui Mayor Advisory Committee – Kim Ball
Maui Economic Development Board – Leslie Wilkins – President
Maui Housing Hui – Jen Mather
Maui Medic Healers – Noelani Ahia – Maui Lead
Maui Rapid Response – Nicole Huguenin – Co-Founder & Director
Maui Recovery, Hawaii Community Foundation – Keanu Lau Hee – Senior Director
Maui Rescue Mission – Kelly McHugh – Executive Director
Marshall Together – Tawnya Somauroo – Co-Founder
Mo'olelo Group – Kainoa Horcajo – Principal Owner
Money Management International – Kate Bulger – Director, Business Development
NAMI Sonoma County – Susan Dunn – Education & Support Services Manager
Napa County Resource Conservation District – Lucas Patzek – Executive Director
Napa Firewise – Joseph Nordlinger - CEO
Native Hawaiian Philanthropy – Ku'uleinani Maunupau – CEO
Neighborhood Housing Services of Los Angeles – Lori Gay – President & CEO
Nonprofit Association of Oregon – Jim White – Executive Director
Nuestra Comunidad – Alma Bowen – Founder & CEO
Open AQ – Chisato Fukuda-Calvert, Ph.D. – Interim Director
Pacific Disaster Center – Ray Shirkhodai – Executive Director
Pepperwood Foundation – Dr. Lisa Micheli – President & CEO; After the Fire USA Executive Board
Philanthropy California – Alan Kwok, Ph.D. – Director of Climate & Disaster Resilience
Plumas Rural Services – Lara Wheeler – Coordinator
PostFire – Patty Ratermann – Co-Founder & CEO
PostFire – iO Wright – Co-Founder & Chief Program Officer
Project:Camp – Mikey Latner – Founder
Project:Camp – Henry Meier – Director of External Affairs
R&S Kayne Foundation – Sarah Ali – Chief Operating Officer
Rebuild Maui – Alfy Basurto – Executive Director and Founder
Rebuild Paradise Foundation – Jen Goodlin – Executive Director
Red Cross – Luke Beckmann – Division Disaster State Relations Director
Resilient Ready – Renae Hanvin – CEO & Founder
Rogue Food Unites – Tania Pineda – Community Engagement Coordinator
Rogue Food Unites – Amber Ferguson – Executive Director and CEO
Rotary Club of Lahaina Sunset – Mariko Higashi
Santa Cruz County, Office of Response, Recovery and Resilience – David Reid – Director

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Santiam Canyon Long Term Recovery Group – Deana Freres – President, Board of Directors
Santiam Disaster Services – Tanni Swisher – Program Director
Santiam Hospital and Clinics – Melissa Baurer – Director, Integrated Health & Outreach
Sierra Institute for Community & Environment – Jonathan Kusel, Ph.D. – Founder & Executive Director
Smart Home America – Julie Shiyou-Woodard – President & CEO
Sonoma Chamber of Commerce – Mark Bodenhammer – CEO
Sonoma Ecology Center – Caitlin Cornwall – Senior Project Manager
Sonoma Family Meal – Heather Irwin – Founder
Sonoma Valley Tourism – Tim Zahner – Executive Director
Team Palisades – Darragh Danton – Neighborhood Rep
Team Rubicon – Jonas Reynolds, PMP – Operations Director
Team Rubicon – Matthew Henderson – NorCal Administrator
The Altadena Collective – Chris Corbett – Co-Founder
The Little Dozer that Did / ReCoverCa – Nancy Presser – Editor / Consultant
The Little Dozer That Did – Ken Donnell – Dixie Fire Community Leader
The Foothill Catalog Foundation – Alex Athenson – Executive Director
The Hummingly Foundation – Jolie Wills – Founder & Executive Director
ToolBank USA – Trey Bearden – Chief Operations Officer
United Policyholders – Valerie Brown – Deputy Executive Director
USGBC California – Elizabeth Christy – Programs Manager
Ventura County Long Term Disaster Recovery Group – Anne Whatley – Facilitator
Volunteer Fire Foundation – Jacqui Jorgeson – Founder and Executive Director
Walmart Foundation – Brooks Nelson – Senior Manager, Disaster Preparedness & Response
Watch Duty – John Mills – CEO

Tribal / Indigenous Organizations

Cultural Fire – Margo Robbins – Executive Director
Lomakatsi Restoration Project – Belinda Brown – Tribal Partnerships Director
Lomakatsi Restoration Project – Marko Bey – Founder & Executive Director
Maidu Summit Consortium – Trina Cunningham – Executive Director
Native Hawaiian Education Council – Kalei Tsuha – Executive Director
Lahaina Strong – Paele Kiakona

Private Sector / Business

4LEAF, Inc. – Mike Renner – Director of Development Recovery Services
4LEAF, Inc. – Jane Riley – Director of Advance Planning and Housing
Amazon – Sam Shockley – Sr. Product Manager, Disaster Relief

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Amazon – Vidya Sampath – Senior Product Manager, Disaster Relief Program
atelierjones – Susan Jones, FAIA – Founder
CTEH – Christa Lopez, Ph.D., CEM – Senior Advisor, Disaster Recovery & Community Resilience
Fannie Mae – Maria Evans – VP, Sustainable Communities Partnerships
Fannie Mae – Sidra Goldwater – Advisor, Industry & Community Impact
Fannie Mae – Tim Carpenter – Senior Director, Industry & Community Impact
Firebrand Electric – Steve Rahmn – President; Block Captain, 2017 Tubbs Fire
flameMapper – Shea Broussard – Co-Founder
Fortress – Shayne McLaughlin – Wildfire Defense Specialist
Grid Sentry – Paul McCarren – President
Hagerty Consulting, FEMA Administrator (2017-19) – Brock Long – Executive Chairman
ICON – Bungane Mehlomakulu – Head of Building Science & Building Performance
ICON – Andrew Rothgaber – Senior Director, Public Sector Business Development
IEM, FEMA Director of Individual Assistance (2015-2022) – Chris Smith – Director
Imbibitive Technologies – John Brinkman – President
Kaiser Permanente – Alena Wall – Public Affairs Director
Living in Place Institute – Louie Delaware, CLIPP, ACPC, CRM, CAPS – Founder & President
Lorez Bailey Consulting – Lorez Bailey – Consultant
Lowe’s – David Venables – Disaster Recovery Solutions
McMahon Solutions – Stephen McMahon – CEO
NanoTech – Mike Francis – CEO & Co-Founder
NanoTech – Carrie Horazek – Chief Commercial Officer
NanoTech – Hani Taan – Chief Technology Officer
NOVACES – Lynn Knight – Director of Economic Development & Resilience Programs
Perimeter Project – Bailey Farren – CEO
Resiliency Company – Abby Ross – Founder
Subcity.com – Gil Gonzalez – Co-Founder
UC Cooperative Extension – Stephanie Larson – County Director, Livestock Range Management Advisor
Wuuii – Ivan O’Neill – Co-Founder & CEO

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