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# Wildfire Mitigation for Environmental Management's Mission at Los Alamos National Laboratory



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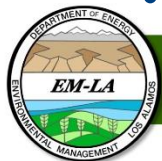
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# Los Alamos National Laboratory at a Glance



❑ Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) is the oldest, most complex, and second largest National Nuclear Security Administration site

- ~ 40 square miles
- Over 11,000 federal employees and contractors
- Over 1,200 buildings
- 11 nuclear facilities
- 268 miles of roads (100 paved)
- 47 technical areas



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# 2011 Las Conchas Fire



The Las Conchas fire in 2011 burned 156,000 acres and focused attention on waste stored above ground at Area G.



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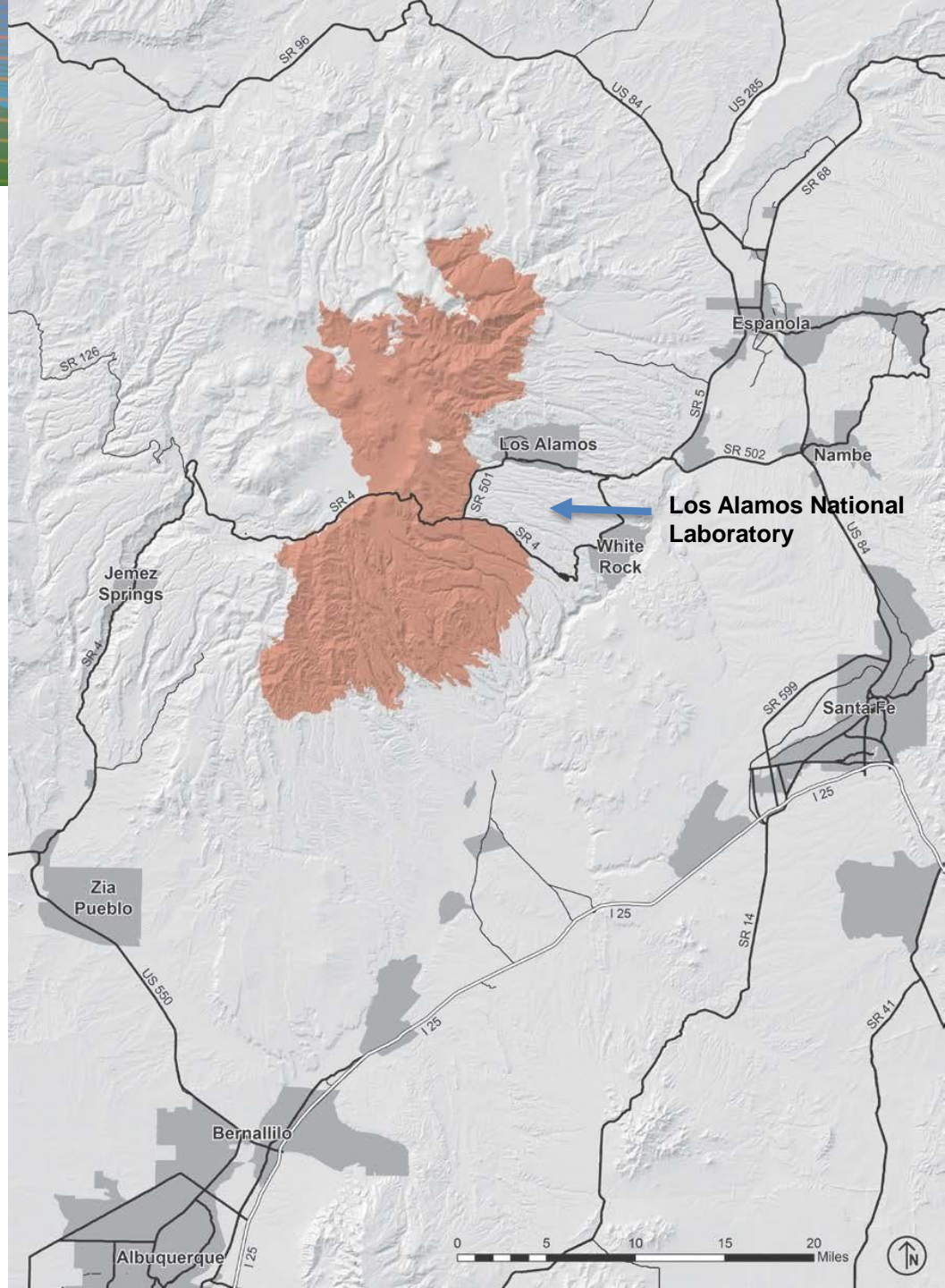
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# The Las Conchas Fire in relation to Los Alamos National Laboratory and nearby communities

Credit: Southwest Fire Science Consortium



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# Wildfire Mitigation



To reduce the risk of a wildfire at Area G, ground fuels around the perimeter have been removed and growth around the domes are monitored daily during spring and summer.



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- Fuel mitigation (tree thinning) is routinely performed in the canyons adjacent to Area G to minimize the amount of vegetation available for burning in a wildland fire.



Before



After





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## Wildfire Mitigation (Cont.)



The waste stored above ground at Area G is in metal containers or under a fire suppression system on asphalt or concrete pads.





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# Wildfire Model Depicting Fire Path After Mitigation Efforts

Real Topo Area C, 2 m/s wind coming from west, 4-line ignition. Mown grass around the dome.

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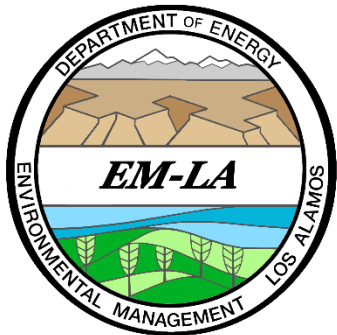


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# Emergency Management Scenarios

- Every site has emergency management scenarios that are specific to their area and require focused planning
- Preparing for these scenarios involves close coordination with our stakeholders and partners
  - At Los Alamos National Laboratory for wildfire mitigation, that means coordination between EM-LA, NA-LA, the M & O and cleanup contractors, Los Alamos County, and the U.S. Forest Service



**NEB** *Los Alamos*

**NNSA**  
National Nuclear Security Administration

 **TRIAD**  
National Security, LLC



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